

FRIDAY DECEMBER 30 1983

20p

No 61,725

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Future...
Great expectations: New Year hopes and resolutions from some top people of 1983, and a 1984 calendar of world sport.

Perfect
Forever England: tiffin and tennis parties in Malaysia, land of Somerset Maugham.

Cut...
A day at the sales: Values offers a guide for bargain-hunters.

And run
Julie Davidson celebrates hogmanay by temporarily abandoning her Scottish home and fleeing to the Fens.



Brother...
Neil Kinnock reflects on the real lessons of George Orwell's 1984.

It law
Gavin Stamp looks at planning legislation and how different architects respond to the controls.

Best Austin Rover year since 1979

Austin Rover has produced 450,000 cars this year, 44 per cent of all cars made in Britain, recording its best performance since 1979. It has also produced more than 40 cars per man, against only six per man in 1979.

Page 2

US to review terror tactics

The Pentagon investigation into the Beirut suicide bombing is likely to result in a global reappraisal of US military tactics, including a tougher response to terrorism.

Page 4

Stunted children

A study commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Security says that children of the long-term unemployed can suffer from stunted growth.

Page 2

Gandhi debut

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, son of the Indian Prime Minister, strongly attacked the left when he delivered his first important speech at a party meeting in Calcutta.

Page 5

Beach Boy dies

Dennis Wilson, drummer in the Beach Boys pop group, drowned while diving in a marina near Los Angeles. He was 39.

Page 4

Obituary, Page 12

Breath-test call

A Conservative MP has called for the introduction of random breath tests to reduce death and injury on the roads.

Page 3

Deafness risk

Young people are at serious risk of having impaired hearing in later life because of prolonged exposure to loud music, organisers for the deaf said.

Page 3

Pound rises

The pound touched \$1.45 for the first time in three weeks, with the dollar weakening as expectations fell of a rise in American interest rates.

Page 15

China's success

China has achieved its 1983 production targets two years early, it is reported.

Page 5

Boycott applies

Geoffrey Boycott has applied to join the Yorkshire committee as a representative of Wakefield district. The man he will oppose, Dr John Turner, voted against Boycott's dismissal in October.

Page 19

Letters: On N Ireland, from Lady Ewart-Biggs, and Mr D Morrison; Queen's broadcast, from Mr R S Rowntree; guesstelling, from Mr M Woolman. Leading articles: Greenham campaign: Unesco; 30-year secrets rule.

Features, pages 6-10.

Two-page Review of 1983: Bernard Levin on publishing and being damned; Hits and misses of Soviet killer squads. Spectrum: A day in the life of a council estate. Friday Page: The party's over: Medical Briefing. Obituary, page 12. Sir Lionel Russell, Dennis Wilson.

Issue No. 23	Letters	11
Overseas	Motoring	12
Arts	Science	12
Books	Snow reports	18
Business	Sport	17-19
Cities	TV Radio	21
Court	Letters, etc	21
Crossword	Weather	22
Diary	Wills	12

US brushes aside Western pleas to stay in Unesco

By Our Foreign Staff

The United States has been particularly angered by what it perceives as Unesco's bias against Israel, and its current campaign to introduce a "new world" information order, before the deadline was reached, as an attempt at international press censorship.

The US departure will be a serious financial blow to Unesco, which relies on the United States to contribute about one-quarter of its annual budget. Earlier this year, America had been the only member to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget, amounting to \$374m, (about £250m).

American officials said the Administration would be prepared to reconsider its decision

Why America quit

Leading article

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, who hoped that a way could be found for the United States to remain a member of Unesco before the deadline was reached.

The UN leader said that, in his contacts with Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the US representative at the UN, he had emphasized the adverse effects withdrawal would have on the UN principle of universality of membership.

Diplomats said the Secretary-General's restrained tone meant he still left open the possibility that the United States could be persuaded to change its mind.

In Paris, Unesco officials said Mr Mbow was on holiday and they refused to comment publicly on the US decision but privately they admitted it was a threat to Unesco's future.

One official said: "We hope that the US decision is really a lightning bolt across our bows, giving us time to change direction."

The first challenge Mr Mbow must face is financial. A British official said: "The first thing he can do is to start to cut costs in Paris."

Western countries have long been critical of lavish spending in Paris; for example, the cost of the general conference of members' delegates this year is estimated to have been \$6.4m.

"For some of the Third World representatives", a Western delegate said, "that is a chance to spend a few weeks in one of the world's most beautiful cities - and all at somebody else's expense. Some

Continued on back page, col 1

Alliance told to get ready for coalition

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Dr David Owen has used his new year message to the Social Democrats to warn his party and the Alliance to prepare to work in a coalition government after the next general election.

Mr Shultz's recommendation was "based upon our experience that Unesco has extraneously politicized virtually every subject it deals with, has exhibited hostility towards the basic institutions of a free society, especially the free press and has demonstrated unrestrained budgetary expansion."

At the United Nations in New York, the decision was met with regret and concern from

Reading from a prepared statement, the spokesman said: "Mr Shultz's recommendation was 'based upon our experience that Unesco has extraneously politicized virtually every subject it deals with, has exhibited hostility towards the basic institutions of a free society, especially the free press and has demonstrated unrestrained budgetary expansion.'

Reading from a prepared statement, the spokesman said: "Mr Shultz's recommendation was 'based upon our experience that Unesco has extraneously politicized virtually every subject it deals with, has exhibited hostility towards the basic institutions of a free society, especially the free press and has demonstrated unrestrained budgetary expansion.'

Dr Owen himself, if he was last night removed it, not because it did not represent his party, but because he wanted to develop it more fully in a newspaper article.

But Dr Owen is increasingly talking about the possibility of coalitions as he continues to resist pressure from the Liberals and within his own party for a merger between the two.

Dr Owen's new year message to their parties underlined starkly their differing visions of the future development of the Alliance.

Mr Steel, who said in his that the Cabinet had become a "lame duck" administration and that Labour was totally unable to provide a credible alternative, refers throughout to the role of the Alliance rather than simply to that of his own party and calls on every Liberal and Social Democrat to pledge themselves to work more closely together.

Message texts, page 2

Embassy man shot dead

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

One member of the administrative staff of the Jordanian Embassy in Madrid was shot dead and another seriously injured yesterday by a waiting gunman as the two were leaving work in a car.

The gunman, in his twenties and of Arab appearance, es-

caped. Spanish police said they suspected he was a member of a dissident Palestinian faction.

Two men armed with pistols stole the equivalent of about £2m in notes in a bank raid just before closing time in the Gran Via here yesterday.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Charity workers head honours poll

By Robin Young

There is four times more popular support for giving New Year Honours to charity workers than to groups whose members habitually figure in the lists - local government officials, senior civil servants and nationalised industry chairman. This is revealed in a public opinion poll conducted by MORI for The Sunday Times and made available exclusively to The Times.

A sample of 1,065 adults interviewed in 55 constituency sampling points around Britain on December 16 were asked whether they thought honours should or should not be

awarded to people in various categories.

Strongest support went to honouring charity workers, with 92 per cent in their favour. Only six respondents in a hundred thought charity should be its own reward.

On the other hand fewer than a fifth of respondents would make awards to nationalised industry chairman, or trade union leaders. Three quarters of those polled were against such awards.

Scientists and doctors scored well with 85 per cent support, and awards to sports personalities were precisely twice as popular as those to former MPs and politicians. Although opposition to

honours divided almost equally for and against the idea of giving artists and musicians any encouragement.

Just over a third of respondents favoured honours to judges and lawyers, and even newspaper editors and journalists. Although opposition to

Simple wedding ceremony for Princess Caroline



Married in Monte Carlo: Princess Caroline, flanked by her husband Signor Stefano Casiraghi and her father Prince Rainier, waving to well-wishers outside Monaco's royal palace yesterday.

Only family members and close friends attended the wedding. Princess Caroline, who will be 27 next month, wore a beige satin dress.

the 20-minute civil ceremony at the Palace (Reuter reports).

After the wedding, the Princess and her new husband, a 23-year-old Italian businessman, delighted a crowd of 1,000 as they emerged onto a palace balcony for a brief appearance.

The intimacy of yesterday's ceremony contrasted sharply with the

pomp of Princess Caroline's first marriage to M Philippe Junot, a French businessman, in 1978, which ended in divorce after barely two years.

The Princess, who has reigned as Monaco's first lady since the death of her mother, Princess Grace, after a road accident last year, was given away by her father.

Rising anger over latest shipment of UHT milk

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The dispute between Britain and its EEC partners over imports of UHT milk threatened yesterday to worsen as the Newhaven port health authority talked of prosecuting the importers and the Commission in Brussels angrily demanded explanations from the British Government.

A shipment of 22,000 litres arrived at Newhaven from Normandy yesterday morning on board the Sealink ferry Charlemagne.

There seemed, however, every likelihood that it would suffer a fate similar to that of a previous consignment which, earlier this month, was allowed to travel as far as Salisbury, Wiltshire, before being declared unfit for human consumption because allegedly it contained too much water.

General Viljoen told a press conference at the Defence Force's headquarters in Pretoria that the base included a defence headquarters, a Swapo training centre, a political indoctrination centre, a logistics facility, and a workshop for repairing military vehicles.

It was not possible to estimate the number of casualties because the base was well dug in, but it might have held between 200 and 500 people at the time, he said. "I think we sent them a message," warned them that we know about the area, and are ready to attack again if necessary".

The official Angolan news agency ANGOP, monitored yesterday in Lisbon, claimed that Angolan artillery shot down three South African aircraft on bombing raids over southern Angola's towns earlier this week in which many civilians were killed.

General Viljoen maintained that no South African war aircraft had been lost during the current operation which, it has now been disclosed, began on December 6. Its declared aim is to forestall the rainy season thrust by Swapo guerrillas into South Africa-ruled Namibia (South-West Africa).

The general did, however, acknowledge that during a reconnaissance flight near Cahama, in central southern Angola, South African fighter aircraft had come under fire from the latest Soviet-made radar-guided ground-to-air missiles.

He produced the severed head of a Sam-3 missile which, he said, had lodged without detonating in the tail of an Impala reconnaissance aircraft.

General Viljoen said that so far nine South Africans, three whites, and six blacks had been killed in the operation and he put combat deaths among Swapo and its Cuban and Angolan allies at about 50.

He produced a Sam-3 missile which, he said, had lodged without detonating in the tail of an Impala reconnaissance aircraft.

General Viljoen said that so far nine South Africans, three whites, and six blacks had been killed in the operation and he put combat deaths among Swapo and its Cuban and Angolan allies at about 50.

He produced a Sam-3 missile which, he said, had lodged without detonating in the tail of an Impala reconnaissance aircraft.

General Viljoen said that so far nine South Africans, three whites, and six blacks had been killed in the operation and he put combat deaths among Swapo and its Cuban and Angolan allies at about 50.

He produced a Sam-3 missile which, he said, had lodged without detonating in the tail of an Impala reconnaissance aircraft.

HARRODS SALE

Modern Furniture

Examples from Zevi at Half Price

A collection of occasional furniture in cream finished steel



Harrods
Ong. Sale
Illustrated
Four-tier shelf unit £370 £185
Lamp table £139 £69
Coffee table £160 £80
End table £119 £59
Display cabinet £399 £199

Modem Cabinets, Third Floor
Carriage free within our own delivery area

Not shown
Five-tier shelf unit £370 £185
Lamp table £139 £69
Coffee table £160 £80
End table £119 £59<br

Conservative MP seeks random breath tests to reduce road deaths

By Michael Horsell

A call for the introduction of random breath tests to reduce death and injury on the roads was made yesterday by Mr Stephen Norris, Conservative MP for Oxford East.

It followed a complaint on Tuesday by a Conservative colleague, Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, MP for Birmingham, Selly Oak, that the police had been "hounding" motorists during the Christmas holiday with unjustified breath tests, and moving quietly towards random ones.

Mr Norris said there was evidence that in other countries such as Sweden, where random tests are allowed, that road deaths involving drink-driving had been cut.

"The drink-driving laws in Sweden are so tight that virtually no one uses a car if he has been drinking," he said.

He did not believe random testing to be an infringement of personal liberty. People already accepted that they were liable to be stopped for roadside checks on the condition of their car, and speed traps were also granted.

In the West Midlands 143 drivers gave positive breath

tests in the seven days to December 28, seven fewer than in the same period last year.

Police forces throughout the country said that stringent checks would be continued during the new year.

Despite the police crackdown breweries are reporting a "satisfactory" Christmas from early returns, but with large regional variations.

Wales, where two licensing districts were the only areas in Europe in which public houses and hotels could not serve drinks on Christmas Day because it fell on a Sunday, appeared among the worst hit. In the North-west, however, trade was described as buoyant despite high unemployment.

Tolly Cobbold, the East Anglian brewery which covers areas where motorists were jailed for drink-driving offences, said that the police crackdown had had no noticeable effect on beer sales in public houses. Stocks of non-alcoholic lager had had to be replenished before Christmas after an unexpectedly big demand.

Arthritis drug ban demanded

By Thomson Prentice

The Committee on Safety of Medicines is continuing to review anti-arthritis pain killers containing phenylbutazone and oxyphenbutazone, which the United States Government was asked yesterday to ban immediately because of serious side effects.

A consumer protection group in Washington called for the ban on two products, Burazolidin and Tanderil, saying that their side effects could have led to more than 10,000 deaths worldwide.

The drugs are available under prescription in Britain and have been associated with 573 British deaths since 1964. Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Minister for Health, is awaiting the outcome of the safety committee's review of the products before considering whether they should be withdrawn.

Doctors have been warned for some years in product information sheets that the drugs have been linked with gastro-intestinal intolerance and bleeding and blood disorders. About one million prescriptions are issued each year.

The Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that the drug manufacturer, the Swiss-owned Ciba-Geigy, were cooperating fully with the inquiry from the British laboratories at Horsham, West Sussex.

Mr Clarke said in the House of Commons two weeks ago: "I am aware of public concern about this matter and the safety committee has products in this class under close review."

He disclosed in a written answer that 1,683 cases of suspected adverse reaction to Butazolidin, including 442 deaths and 503 reports of suspected adverse reaction to Tanderil, including 131 deaths, had been reported to the committee.

Ciba-Geigy said in Basle yesterday that the company would contest any attempt to remove the two drugs from the market. An official said they had been supplied to 180 million patients since 1952.

"We have had casualties, put at about 1,200, but we do not know whether the drugs were the direct reason."

Remarriage scheme faces clergy boycott

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England's new scheme for remarrying divorcees in church may be boycotted by many of the clergy if big changes are not made to the procedure, the Church Union, representing Anglo-Catholics in the church, said yesterday.

As many as a third of the parochial clergy may be unable to accept the scheme as it stands, the Church Union's executive said in a policy statement. Some will refuse even to read the banns of marriage of divorced persons, which they are legally obliged to do, and the Church Union says it will support them in that decision.

The present proposals have had a long and bitter passage through the General Synod and are due to return there for final approval in February.

The changes that the Church Union says would be necessary before Anglo-Catholics could support the scheme have been rejected at earlier stages despite veiled hints that a boycott would take place if there was no accommodation to Anglo-Catholic attitudes. That threat has now been made explicit.

The executive of the Church Union is demanding that the scheme should be made acceptable to clergy who regard marriage as indissoluble, but who could operate with a system like that in the Roman Catholic Church for annulling marriages in certain cases.

Where a marriage could be judged not to have existed in the first place, despite a legal ceremony, such clergy would cooperate in a "second" marriage.

Yesterday's statement listed the changes, calling them "substantial", which the General Synod would have to make to the scheme to win that degree of cooperation.

"We advise priests not to take part in the proposed procedures unless they are substantially amended", the Church Union's policy statement said. "We trust that no bishop will authorize, and no priest will solemnize, a "second marriage" except in rare cases where it can be established beyond all reasonable doubt that the previous union was not a true and binding marriage."

The union's most serious criticism of the proposed procedure is the absence of any criteria by which the bishop and his panel of advisers will judge whether to allow a second marriage in church.

New British satellite to act as radio mail box

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

October, 1981, and has been highly successful in transmitting test scientific information.

The new satellite will conduct about ten experiments; the others include particle experiments on the radiation in the magnetic envelop around the Earth, and the transmission of pictures of the Earth.

It will be launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on a Delta rocket from the Western Test Range, Vandenberg, in California into an orbit 435 miles above the Earth. It will be above the horizon for several orbits in the morning and evening for a maximum of 14 minutes.

It will be launched by a team led by Surrey University, will have a capacity of about 50,000 words, enabling it to serve as an electronic mail box for more than 5,000 radio amateurs, schools, colleges and computer owners.

UOSAT-B, as it is called, is the second satellite to be built by the university. The first, UOSAT-1, was launched in

Film on handicapped upsets resort

Hotellers in the seaside resort of Teignmouth, Devon, have attacked a Yorkshire Television decision to screen a documentary next Tuesday, which they say will resurrect controversy about holidays for the mentally handicapped.

They say it will affect bookings at a time when they are spending thousands of pounds on advertising.

The controversy came to a head last summer when Mr Brian Rix, the actor and secretary-general of Mencap, the charity for the mentally handicapped called some Teignmouth hoteliers and restaurant

owners heartless for not admitting the handicapped.

The Yorkshire documentary, *A Summer Holiday*, will show Staff Nurse Neil Channon checking in shops and cafes in Teignmouth to find out whether his patients would be allowed in.

Mr Don Riddell, Mayor of Teignmouth, said: "It is disgusting to drag it all up again".

Mrs Margaret Fresco, a restaurant owner, said: "We were told the documentary would be going out last September... why wait until now when it will hit us hardest?"

Edinburgh Festival loses £150,000

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Next year's Edinburgh Festival may face cash problems. This year's event made a £150,000 loss, the largest deficit since its launching 36 years ago.

A wayward computer and an unpopular programme brochure were two of the chief reasons for the loss. Mr Tony Morgan, Lord Provost of Edinburgh and chairman of the Festival Society, said yesterday. But the event was a popular success and attracted record audiences.

The festival would be asking the city council, the Arts Council, and any other bodies willing to help. "There will be a very determined effort to ensure that the result from this year will not adversely affect the 1984 festival, and to ensure that our new director does not suffer because of it," Mr Morgan said.

"This loss is a drop in the ocean in comparison with the advantages brought by the

millions which the festival and its visitors bring to the city."

The largest loss, £35,000, came from the new-style 350-page programme, costing £1.50, of which about twenty thousand remained unsold.

The computer ticket sales system did not work properly in time to cope with demand and temporary ticket staff had to be hired at a cost of £10,000. A further £10,000 loss was recorded on art exhibitions and the same amount was spent filling Mr Drummond's job.

Mr Morgan said that most of the problems which led to this year's deficit would not be repeated next year. "I would not expect the problems with the programme to be repeated. The new computer unfortunately did not have long enough to run in to handle the rush of tickets. Next year that will be provided for,"

Edinburgh City Council plans to give the festival £560,000 next year, compared with £495,000 this year. Critics of the council say the grant is minuscule when contrasted with the

£1,000 fine for flight outburst

An American engineer, Leonard Dobrowski, aged 37, was fined £1,000 yesterday with an alternative of 90 days' imprisonment after admitting that he had acted in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft.

Dobrowski, who had been flying a Boeing 707 flight from Washington to Heathrow, shouted that there was a bomb on board. The crew had to restrain him and he struck a duty officer.

Mr P. E. Honke, for the defence, said his client, who had been drinking heavily, had had a nightmare in which someone placed a bomb in his luggage.



Satisfied customer: Miss Betty Creech, of West Hampstead, London, with one of her friends yesterday in Regent's Park, where she regularly feeds the squirrels and birds.

(Photograph: John Voss)

Warning on home sale incentives

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Young couples buying new "starter" homes are sometimes losing thousands of pounds when they sell, particularly if they have to sell in the first year or two, the Anglia Building Society says in a review of this year's housing market.

Small "starter" homes, often one-bedroom maisonettes, have become so popular that prices have risen sharply, but some first-time buyers have experienced difficulties when they have needed to sell earlier than expected. Mr Peter Morton, Anglia's chief surveyor, writes:

"Second-hand "starter" homes, often one-bedroom maisonettes, have become so popular that prices have risen sharply, but some first-time buyers have experienced difficulties when they have needed to sell earlier than expected. Mr Peter Morton, Anglia's chief surveyor, writes:

"Second-hand "starter" homes, often one-bedroom maisonettes, have become so popular that prices have risen sharply, but some first-time buyers have experienced difficulties when they have needed to sell earlier than expected. Mr Peter Morton, Anglia's chief surveyor, writes:

"Incentive packages from builders, such as new furniture, carpets, and kitchens, as well as cheap mortgages, make "starter" homes attractive. But second-hand kitchen equipment does not command a good price, and the other incentives, such as cheap mortgages and free legal work and stamp duty, are not available on resale."

According to estate agents, incentives for the new home are reflected in the price, which in effect overvalues the house.

The Anglia has noted that in the East Midlands some resales are £4,500 less than the new price. On one estate in the South-east, the package price of a one-bedroom maisonette stood at £31,000, whereas the second-hand resale figure just obtained for a similar dwelling was £26,500.

In Hampshire, a price drop of £3,000 was reported, with similar losses noted in other regions throughout the country. Mr Morton said that the Anglia was not telling people not to buy "starter" homes, but advising them to understand the difficulties that might arise.

Mr Morton says the message for first-time buyers is a clear one: "Check the local housing market and how used "starter" homes are faring." Modern second-hand houses, typically the suburban "semis" which were not long ago the barometer and backbone of the housing market, were not as popular as new property.

Plenty of bargains are still around in this sector, but they tend to get overlooked by first-time buyers who show a strong preference to buy new, often smaller properties with all the latest innovations."

Overall, the Anglia reported that house prices had increased by 9 per cent this year, the biggest rise for three years. New house prices went up by 3.5 per cent, pre-1919 houses by 9.5 per cent, and modern second-hand houses by 8.2 per cent.

Mr Morton says the message for first-time buyers is a clear one: "Check the local housing market and how used "starter" homes are faring." Modern second-hand houses, typically the suburban "semis" which were not long ago the barometer and backbone of the housing market, were not as popular as new property.

Plenty of bargains are still around in this sector, but they tend to get overlooked by first-time buyers who show a strong preference to buy new, often smaller properties with all the latest innovations."

Mr Morton says the message for first-time buyers is a clear one: "Check the local housing market and how used "starter" homes are faring." Modern second-hand houses, typically the suburban "semis" which were not long ago the barometer and backbone of the housing market, were not as popular as new property.

Plenty of bargains are still around in this sector, but they tend to get overlooked by first-time buyers who show a strong preference to buy new, often smaller properties with all the latest innovations."

Mr Morton says the message for first-time buyers is a clear one: "Check the local housing market and how used "starter" homes are faring." Modern second-hand houses, typically the suburban "semis" which were not long ago the barometer and backbone of the housing market, were not as popular as new property.

Emergency clinics 'a success'

By David Cross

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service, which has for the first time run an emergency service during the Christmas and new year period, said yesterday that the experiment had been a great success.

Mrs Diane Munday, for the organization, said that two of the three clinics which were open yesterday for abortion and sterilization operations were fully booked and that advisory and referral branches had been busy dealing with inquiries about pregnancy tests, abortions

and morning-after birth control pills.

The service normally closes its five nursing homes and 30 advisory branches for up to a fortnight between Christmas Eve and the New Year. But this year the organization made arrangements for a limited service to operate during the holiday period for women who were worried that they might become pregnant during the festivities.

The nursing homes were also open so that women could take advantage of their husbands being at home to look after the family while they were having an abortion.

Mrs Munday cited Luton and Bournemouth as two branches which had had particularly busy periods this week.

On Wednesday, the Bournemouth branch received 25 inquiries during the five hours it was open and made 19 appointments, including 11 for possible abortions, four for pregnancy tests, two for abortion checks and two for vasectomies. Its 24-bed nursing home in Doncaster carried out 26 abortions and six vasectomies yesterday.

Deafness risk to teenagers

By Kenneth Gosling

High noise levels from personal hi-fi equipment, home headsets and from discotheques are creating a serious risk of impaired hearing to young people in later life.

The warning was given yesterday by the country's four leading organizations helping deaf people. Mr Harry Cayton, director of the National Deaf Children's Society, the charity most in contact with the age group exposed to discotheque noise, said: "There is increasing evidence that prolonged exposure to loud music can cause permanent damage to health."

The organization make the point, timely in view of the popularity of personal hi-fis as gifts, that young people frequently set the volume too high.

Mr Clayton says that the high sensitivity of headphones and use with power amplifiers raises their potential for damage.

The development of portable cassette recorders has increased the risk, he says, by extending the use of headphones to outside the home.

About two to three thousand young people every year might be suffering damage to their hearing, the most vulnerable age groups being those in their early twenties.

About half attend discotheques and many more are exposed regularly to high levels of amplified music.

In industry, the charities say, 90 decibels for eight hours is considered harmful to hearing. But in discotheques the noise levels often exceed 100 decibels.

Boy dies after eating pen top

A boy aged six who swallowed a sweet-flavoured plastic pen top at his home on Christmas Day died in hospital yesterday.

Matthew Chambers had been on a life support machine in the intensive care unit at Southampton General Hospital after being flown down there from his home on the Isle of Wight.

He had swallowed the top from a scented felt-tip pen given to him as a present.

Matthew, of Fleming Close, Brinstead, near Ryde, youngest of five children, is thought to have ruptured a lung when he swallowed the top, which he had been sucking.

Divorce for top lawyer

Mr George Carman, QC, was granted an undefended divorce from his second wife, Frances, aged 33, in the London Divorce Court yesterday, on the grounds of her adultery with an unnamed man. They were married in 1976.

The development of portable cassette record

Shadow of absent Andropov

From Richard Owen
Moscow

As the Supreme Soviet ended its two-day winter session yesterday with no sign of President Andropov, the Kremlin launched a concerted campaign to divert attention from his absence and demonstrate that he is in full control. The Supreme Soviet, Russia's Parliament, passed a resolution signed by Mr Andropov condemning the Reagan Administration but calling for an improvement in the international atmosphere. The Supreme Soviet also approved the 1984 budget which provides for a rise in Soviet living standards, including a growth in real incomes of three and a half per cent.

There was no discussion of new laws governing labour discipline, however, and no keynote speech by a senior Kremlin leader on foreign policy. Observers said the somewhat perfunctory nature of the proceedings was due to Mr Andropov's absence.

In an attempt to give the impression that Mr Andropov remains firmly in charge the Soviet media yesterday gave only brief reports of the Supreme Soviet session, con-



His master's voice: Mr Boris Ponomaryov delivering the foreign policy statement in President Andropov's absence.

centrating instead on factory meetings at which Mr Andropov was nominated as a candidate for next March's Government elections. Television reports, with portraits of Mr Andropov and constant invocations of his name to loud applause, seemed designed to dispel suspicions about his health, although for some

viewers they had the opposite effect.

Informed sources suggested yesterday that the significance of Mr Andropov's absence from the Central Committee plenum on Monday and Tuesday, and from the Supreme Soviet which followed, had been exaggerated, since the Soviet leader had effectively dominated both meetings without being present.

Mr Andropov's speech in absentia on Monday has become the touchstone for all party and Government discussions this week. In it Mr Andropov stringently criticized incompetence and inefficiency and called for higher productivity, more and better consumer goods and "the all round perfection of the entire mechanism of management."

Officials at the Supreme Soviet told correspondents that Mr Andropov was in hospital and had suffered a temporary relapse after recovering from an unspecified illness. They said he was alert and following Government business closely. Diplomats were sceptical, however, noting that Mr Andropov had been absent for five months and had failed to reappear even when the Supreme Soviet session was delayed for one

month until the very end of the year. Mr Andropov is believed to have had kidney surgery, although officials denied this.

In speeches which referred repeatedly to Mr Andropov's Monday speech economic officials at the Supreme Soviet outlined a programme designed to yield an annual growth rate of four per cent, twice last year's rate, and a considerable improvement on the sluggish Brezhnev years.

Mr Vasily Garbuzov, the Finance Minister, said Soviet defences would be strengthened, and announced a defence budget of just over 17bn roubles (£15,450m at the official exchange rate).

Mr Nikolai Baibakov, the head of the State Planning Committee, said oil output would go up by five million tonnes and gas output by 43bn cubic metres. Both oil and gas production have been high this year and will increase in 1984 with western Siberia providing over half of the total.

In his only personal contribution to the session President Andropov sent a message to deputies yesterday wishing them a happy new year. It seems unlikely, however, that he will deliver the traditional new year message on television.

Police call Walesa for questioning

Warsaw (Reuter) - Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader and Nobel peace prize winner, was questioned by Gdansk police yesterday about a meeting he held with underground Solidarity representatives which resulted in a call for public protests against food price increases. Mr Walesa went to police headquarters after finishing work as an electrician at the Lenin Shipyard.

His secret meeting with the banned union's clandestine National Coordinating Commission took place in November, after the Communist authorities proposed increases averaging between 10 per cent and 15 per cent.

The rises, due to take effect next month, have not yet been finalized because of stiff opposition from Poland's new unions.

Mr Walesa and the underground leaders signed a statement saying it was Solidarity's "obligation to organize struggle in defence of people's interests".

Mr Jerzy Urban, the government spokesman, said this month that Mr Walesa would be summoned by the internal security services to "discuss the meeting, which needs some clarification".

Mr Walesa was called in for questioning in May, when he last disclosed that he had met the underground commission. No action was taken against Mr Walesa, who described the new summons as routine harassment.

Both Mr Walesa and the coordinating commission have attacked the food price proposals, and the rising level of criticism from official sources in Poland has raised doubts about how quickly the prices will be implemented.

Sniping at West brings backlash

Why America quit Unesco

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The Reagan Administration's decision to withdraw from the Paris-based United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization will have far-reaching implications both for Unesco itself and American relations with the whole United Nations system.

The decision to quit marks the culmination of a year-long study by the State Department of American participation in 96 international organizations.

Although the US has informed Senior Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, that it is not considering leaving the world body, its decision to withdraw from Unesco at the end of next year is intended as a clear signal that the US intends to be more assertive in defence of its interests in UN organizations in the future.

For Unesco, the American decision will have the dramatic effect of depriving it of one-quarter of its annual budget from 1985.

The US has traditionally been the single largest contributor to Unesco. US officials believe it will be hard, if not impossible, for the organization to make up this shortfall, despite assertions earlier this year by Mr Amadou Mahdi Mbow, Unesco's director-general, that he would seek an international loan if the US pulled out.

The Reagan Administration decided to single out Unesco for punitive action because its activities were considered the most contentious among UN agencies and the most inimical to American interests.

The main complaints against Unesco were of undue politicization (with many of its decisions showing a pro-Soviet or anti-Western bias), budget mismanagement, and attempts

to restrict the freedom of the press.

Two issues which particularly angered the US were the temporary barring of Israel from Unesco activities during the mid-1970s and current attempts to establish a "new world information and communications order".

The US and other Western nations regard the "new order" as a way for governments,

Harries, until recently the Australian Ambassador to Unesco, writing in *The New York Times* last week: "Basic features of good management, such as effective evaluation of programmes, comprehensible information about the budget, the effective allocation of resources, and adherence to proper procedures at meetings, are conspicuous by their absence."

Mr Harries was a leading contributor to a highly critical study of Unesco which the Heritage Foundation, a conservative Washington think-tank, issued last October and which is said to have influenced the thinking of the Administration.

In this study Mr Harries wrote that "Unesco's activities are pretty constantly inimical to American interests and values". The organization was characterized by a "consistent and malignant anti-Western bias".

Among other outspoken critics of Unesco who advocated an American withdrawal were the top State Department specialist dealing with international organizations, the American delegate to Unesco, conservative columnists, and somewhat surprisingly, the liberal *New York Times* and *Washington Post* newspapers.

One of the strongest attacks on Unesco came in a leading article in *The New York Times*, a paper normally supportive of the ideals of the UN.

Unesco, the paper claimed, had become "a babel of words notable for their muddiness and dishonesty". It complained that communist delegates had overwhelmed the constructive purposes of Unesco's founders, so that every meeting had become an "anti-Western rally".

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularity those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6 per cent higher than the previous year.

According to Mr Owen

particularly those in the Soviet block and the Third World, to control what is written about their countries, both inside and outside their borders.

As the biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, the US has also been angered by what it regards as the appalling way the organization has been managed and administered.

Unlike other UN agencies, which have been held to zero growth, Mr Mbew has resisted efforts to curb spending. Earlier this year the US was the only country to vote against Unesco's 1984-85 budget of \$374 (£250m), which was more than 6

Police inefficiency means Thornhill saboteurs may never be identified

From Stephen Taylor, Harare

The last three Zimbabwe Air Force officers involved in the Thornhill sabotage case are due to arrive in Britain this morning. The release of all the airmen implicated by Mr Robert Mugabe's Government is the closest thing to an admission that they were innocent of complicity - scapegoats in an investigation which went disastrously wrong.

The identity of whoever was responsible for placing explosives in a dozen fighter aircraft which blew up at Zimbabwe's main air force base on July 25, 1982, may never become public knowledge.

Speculation has turned on diverse theories - that the operation was carried out by embittered former Rhodesians, by South Africans, by members of the minority Zifa faction in the armed forces, even by members of a radical black military group who saw an opportunity to destroy the last remaining section of the armed forces controlled by whites.

The evidence which might have proved the case one way or another has been lost, abandoned in an investigation by incompetent police officers who decided at an early stage, for reasons which remain unclear, that they had to prove a conspiracy by senior white officers and tortured convenient suspects until they made false confessions.

Evidence gathered by the Air Force board of inquiry, which was abandoned after the arrest of two of its members, could have proved crucial if followed up in the police investigation. It included threads of fabric found at a spot where a hole had been cut in the security fence around Thornhill which was ignored by

The new arrivals will dis-

cover that not all has gone smoothly for their colleagues in Britain. Air Vice-Marshal Slater, his wife and two children have been living with friends for more than three months, his only income being from social security payments. He still has not received any of the £180,000 he is owed in pension, but he has now been offered a job.

Air Commodore Pile is owed even more in pension and is still without a job. Wing Commander Briscoe left Britain for the United States last week, having failed to find work. Air Lieutenant Lewis-Walker is hoping to join the RAF but must wait a statutory period before he qualifies.

The officers have undergone personality changes as a result of their ordeal. During the months in detention, they and their families found strength through faith and came to feel strongly about other detainees, mainly blacks, whom they met in Chikurubi prison.

At first they refused, saying they would not go until their brother officers were released and the Government had guaranteed all pension payments owing to them. But after negotiations over the next week, involving government officials, diplomats of the British High Commission and lawyers, in which verbal assurances on both points were given, they flew out of Harare on September 9.

A few days later Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, last of the "top three", was also London-bound. In November Air Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker, who was never brought to trial, was also allowed to leave. Finally, last week Wing Commander John Cox, Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, and Air Lieutenant Neville Weir were freed and given a week to clear up their affairs before leaving.

The new arrivals will dis-

Bonn faces 'hot spring' of discontent

German unions want hours cut

From Michael Binyan, Bonn

While thousands of British factories remained idle over the long Christmas close-down, West German industry has been working normally this week, with only one day off for Christmas.

But the question of how many hours a German worker should put in at his factory is fast becoming a vexed political issue. Both trade unions and employers are deeply divided over a proposal that has been widely touted as a remedy for West Germany's unusually high level of unemployment: a cut in the security fence around



Herr Dregger: It would be irresponsible.



Herr Geissler: A return to the class struggle.

the factory. The new arrivals will dis-

cover that not enough money was granted to West Bengal and that not enough industry was sent there. Mr Gandhi declared that the money that the left-wing Government borrowed was not used, as in other states, to develop current projects but to fund previous borrowing. In any case the money was not spent on useful operations and was frittered away and even given to Communist officials.

Industrial licences had been granted to companies to come to West Bengal, Mr Gandhi added, but they would not come until labour relations and electricity supply could be sorted out. Of an installed capacity of 1,240 megawatts, the state was

able only to generate 750 megawatts. "We seem to have plenty of light in here," he observed, "but there are plenty of dark places outside."

Earlier in the day Mrs Gandhi had kept the packed stadium quiet while outlining her political philosophy in a long statement of introduction to the opening of the annual plenary session. All that had been heard to observe that West Bengal could

do some discipline.

The word he used, *anashakti*, was held

to be somewhat unfortunate, as Mrs Gandhi's emergency used to be described as the *anashakti purba*, the "discipline

of India's development".

He brought a riposte from Mr Jyoti Basu, the Chief Minister, who referred patronizingly to him as "still an apprentice". Yesterday Mr Gandhi had his revenge, directing the main thrust of his speech at Mr Basu's Government.

Mr Basu had been having a free verbal

brush with the Communist Party (Marxist) Chief Minister of West Bengal - of which Calcutta is the capital - since he arrived in the city on Monday. When he visited a highly disorganized and over-crowded exhibition on Tuesday, he was heard to observe that West Bengal could

not be expected to be as successful as the

left-wing Government.

Mr Basu's speech was awaited

anxiously by the conference delegates, who

had been encouraged to think of him as

tomorrow's star by a strutting publicity

campaign round Calcutta, where the

meeting is being held. They packed the

indoor stadium to sit cross-legged on

mattresses spread across the floor. Several thousand more filled the galleries.

His mother, Mrs Indira Gandhi, sat on

a cushion on the rostrum, surrounded by

cross-legged dignitaries of the party, and

hardly looked at him while he spoke. At

first she busied herself with papers on her

desk, and after gazed at the audience

throughfully.

Mr Gandhi, who is younger and better-

looking than his photographs suggest,

spoke gently and slowly in Hindi, with few

gestures and a number of ironic lines that

brought a laugh. He was cheered many

times with cries of "Rajiv Gandhi

Sindbad". As soon as he finished

speaking, almost the entire hall emptied,

leaving a vestigial audience for the rest of

the speakers in the debate.

Experts are divided on how

many new jobs the cuts would

create. Estimates range from a mere 60,000 to around one million. The Trade Union Federation, even after allowing for higher productivity, puts the figure at around 1,400,000.

Politicians are particularly

fearful lest the issue becomes

too emotive and destroys the

vaunted industrial harmony, the corner-stone on which West German prosperity has been built.

Herr Heiner Geissler, the

Christian Democratic Party

secretary, gave a warning recently of "them and us" thinking and a return to the

class struggle. The trade unions themselves have welcomed suggestions that independent arbitrators look at the issue

passionately.

The Government has re-

sponded to the proposal with

the recently published offer of

early retirement at 59. This, it

believes, is more attractive to

workers and economically

sounder. It thinks that, in

conjunction with more flexible

working hours - which it also

recommends - the offer will

undermine support for the 35-

hour week and so avert any

unwelcome strikes.

Employers say that German

industry cannot afford to cut

working time as this would

push up costs and make

German goods less competitive.

Johannesburg (Reuter) - A

total of 26 former hostages of

the Angolan guerrilla move-

ment, Unita, freed on Wednes-

day under a Christmas amnesty, flew yesterday to South Africa, a Red Cross spokesman said.

There were 21 Portuguese,

two Spaniards, a Brazilian, a

Uruguayan and a Cape Ver-

dean. Six were missionaries.

The spokesman said a num-

How Castro has created a welfare state to be envied

Havana (Reuter) - Even Fidel Castro's harshest critics would have difficulty in belittling the progress made by Cuba's revolution, 25 years old on January 1, in creating a welfare state worthy of a much richer country.

A guarantee to free education and public health services has been one of the main goals of Cuba's Communist Government which inherited a far different society when Dr Castro's guerrilla army took power in 1959.

Official statistics, backed by United Nations specialists working here, illustrate the transformation that has taken place in this tropical, largely agricultural island.

The average life expectancy of a Cuban born in the 1950s

was around 50 compared with

73 today, while infant mortality



Family favourites: Mrs Gandhi giving her son Rajiv a few pointers at the Congress meeting in Calcutta

Rajiv Gandhi hammers the left

From Michael Hamlyn, Calcutta

Mr Gandhi has been having a few verbal

brushes with the Communist Party

(Marxist) Chief Minister of West Bengal - of which Calcutta is the capital - since he arrived in the city on Monday. When he visited a highly disorganized and over-crowded exhibition on Tuesday, he was heard to observe that West Bengal could

not be expected to be as successful as the

left-wing Government.

Although the Congress conference has

been particularly gentle in its criticisms of

the Communist-led Government of West Bengal, Mr Gandhi made no bones about

directly accusing them of inefficiency and even peculation.

Mr Gandhi's speech was awaited

anxiously by the conference delegates, who

had been encouraged to think of him as

tomorrow's star by a strutting publicity

campaign round Calcutta, where the

meeting is being held. They packed the

indoor stadium to sit cross-legged on

mattresses spread across the floor. Several thousand more filled the galleries.

His mother, Mrs Indira Gandhi, sat on

a cushion on the rostrum, surrounded by

cross-legged dignitaries of the party, and

hardly looked at him while he spoke. At

first she busied herself with papers on her

desk, and after gazed at the audience

throughfully.

Mr Gandhi, who is younger and better-

looking than his photographs suggest,

spoke gently and slowly in Hindi, with few

gestures and a number of ironic lines that

brought a laugh. He was cheered many

times with cries of "Rajiv Gandhi

Sindbad". As soon as he finished

speaking, almost the entire hall emptied,

leaving a vestigial audience for the rest of

the speakers in the debate.

Experts are divided on how

many new jobs the cuts would

create. Estimates range from a mere 60,000 to around one million. The Trade Union Federation, even after allowing for higher productivity, puts the figure at around 1,400,000.

Politicians are particularly

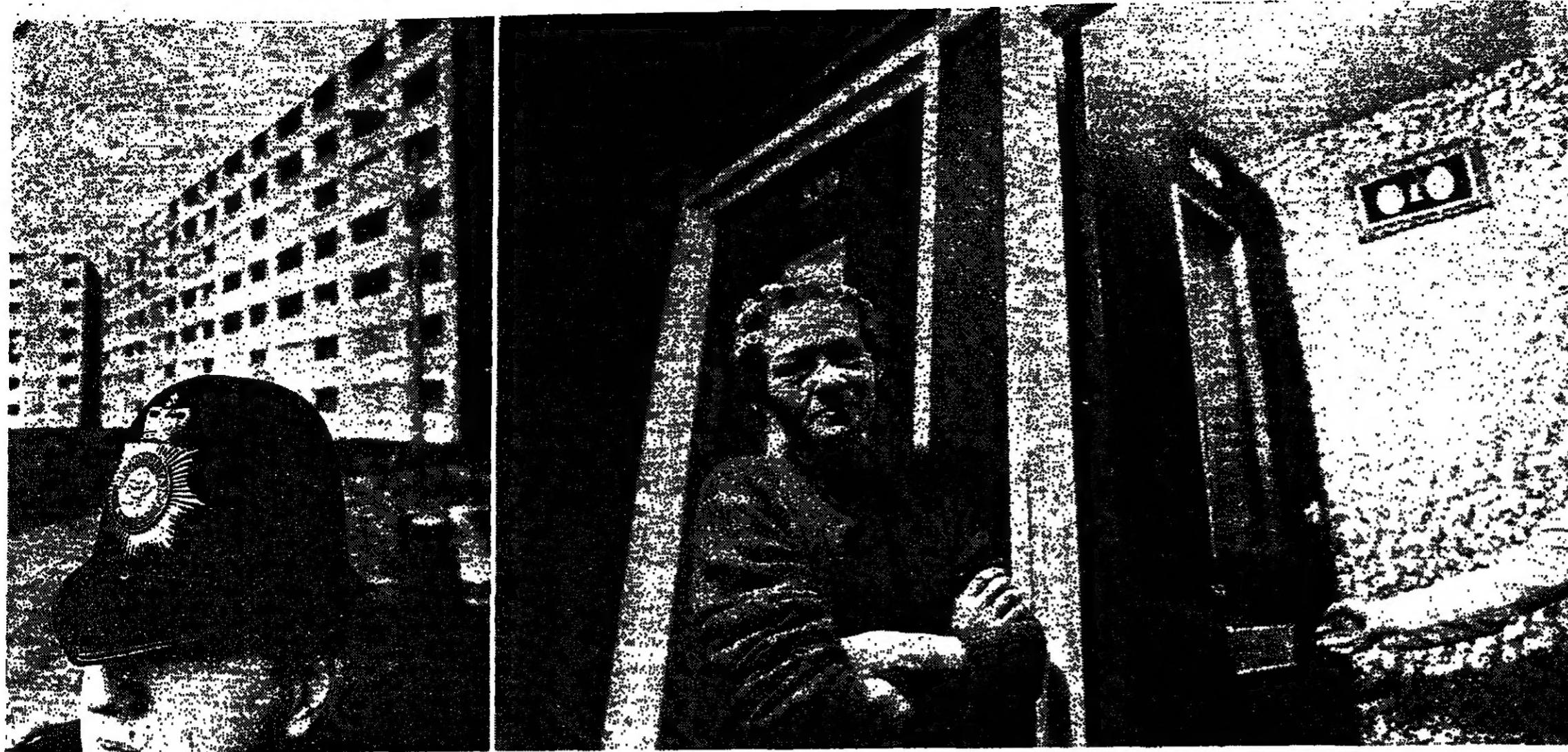
fearful lest the issue becomes

too emotive and destroys the

SPECTRUM

The Chalkhill council estate in Brent, once a model of good housing, is now a violent, rubbish-strewn hell.
John Witherow and Brian Harris spent 24 hours there.

A day in the life of Chalkhill



Brian Harris

Dawn. The estate is deserted except for a few figures who walk down paths hunched against the cold. An old man comes up and offers directions. "This is a terrible place," he confides. "My wife and I want to move to Hemel Hempstead." It is a common yearning on Chalkhill.

We try the walkways. There are more than three miles of them, linking the buildings on three levels. The architects thought of them as pathways in the sky, but to residents they are narrow and murky, hiding places for the junkies, muggers or pranksters. Walls are sprayed with graffiti.

From the fourth floor we can see Wembley stadium, and in the distance the Post Office tower. Below us litter swirls in eddies between the building. Despite its reputation Chalkhill seems curiously sedate. The grass is neatly cut, the outside of the buildings clean, and the signs of vandalism not obvious.

We walk round a corner and find a door smashed. Next door someone has hung a sign: "Smile, God loves you".

8.30am. Our first mugging. We are looking at a Rastafarian mural of the Lion of Judah when there are shouts and the sound of breaking glass. By the time we arrive we find a man slumped against a wall and a tall figure disappearing into the gloom.

Hasmukh is shaking, holding a broken bottle in his hand. One or two heads pop out of doorways but they

soon disappear. Hasmukh points at a plastic bottle of orange squash on a trolley from which he has been delivering milk, sliced bread and cold drinks. "He tried to take this but I wouldn't let him. He hit me so I smashed the bottle against the wall. I know him. He tried to rob me three days ago. No, I don't tell police because he will come back and hit me again." Most crimes go unreported for fear of retribution.

Some people decline to give their second names and talk darkly of becoming "marked" if they complain of vandalism or intimidation.

9.15am. We meet Gwendoline waiting for one of the few lifts that work. She has lived there for 14 years and seen Chalkhill transformed from the feather in the council's cap to a stone in its boot. Gwendoline has plenty of horror stories of estate life. "I've had all sorts of things thrown at me. One bit of wood missed me by inches. I've had stones fired at me from catapults. Some time ago I came across a young man weeping against a wall. I said, 'What are you doing?'. And do you know, dear, he just turned around and sprayed all over me."

"You get gangs of 30 or 40 rushing up and down the walkways. Two thirds of the people here are decent and courteous, whatever their colour or creed. But the rest...oh dear. They just don't care. We don't go out any more at night, dear. Just two doors from us an Asian man was attacked and there was a man knifed in the lift."

10.00am. We wander into one of half-a-dozen shops on the estate to buy some apples. Posters for latest films including *Angel Warriors* (it was her blood...now it's his war) and *Bronx Warriors 2* (they're back and out for blood) block the view of yarns, sweet potatoes and sorrel. Jim, the owner, moved into videos to supplement meagre takings from vegetables. He says his most popular films are *Demented* and *First Blood*.

"Most of the people around here like violence - violence and horror", he says with a curious laugh. "But my videos aren't enough for them. They want films where they can see the axe going into the head in slow motion, huh,huh,huh". To deter burglars Jim sleeps in the back of his shop and boards up the windows at night. "This estate has become a drinkers' and junkies' paradise", he says, with a curious mixture of despair and pride that he should be living in such a hell-hole. "You've got some real Cadburys here, huh,huh,huh". As if on cue a young man with strange spiky hair lurches past the window muttering to himself.

Jim is keen to paint a gloomy picture of life on the estate. "You should call this the concrete jungle, because that's what it is. This place is a dump. The council slung in all the problem families, making one big problem. You never get the TV licence people coming. They came four years ago and they ain't been back. The kids gave them hell - threw bottles at them and that sort of thing."

"It's quiet now because no-one moves before midday. If it's raining they wait until one o'clock. After that anything can happen." We tell Jim of the attempted mugging. He nods knowingly and says: "That's nothing. You wait until tonight". We shift uneasily.

I know him. I don't tell police because he will come back and hit me again

11.30am. After breakfast at a Wimpy's we meet our first policeman. Acting Chief Superintendent Alan Stansby, the man responsible for policing Chalkhill, is large and thoughtful and endlessly energetic. While residents are eager to portray the dark side of the estate, he is an optimist.

The situation, he says, has got better since the murder, that of Seema Devani, last year. The police raided several homes and found the proceeds of five robberies and 20 weapons, mostly knives. He produces a chart to show that while burglary is about average for Brent, the number of muggings are four or five times higher than for the rest of the borough. Last November he put in 40 undercover policemen to watch the estate covertly for two weekends. So good is the antennae for police on Chalkhill, however, that some of the policemen were quickly "rumpled".

They made 11 arrests, and also saw incidents that were never reported, such as the elderly Asian man being followed by about 15 youths who pushed and spat on him. Super Stansby has increased policing of the estate but he still gets complaints from both sides. "I went to a meeting where one man got up and demanded more policemen", he says. "No sooner had he sat down than another man got up and said he didn't want his children contaminated by talking to policemen."

He believes the real troublemakers are a small group of between 20 and 30 youths out of the 6,000 to 7,000 people living on Chalkhill. We tell him we are spending the night on the estate and he advises us to park our car some distance away. "Nice for you to have something to return to", he says.

1.30pm. I try to make a telephone call in a call box that has had all its glass smashed and is propped up by scaffolding poles. As I leave 10p in the slot a small boy aged about eight runs up, grabs the coin and disappears. I reverse the charges.

2.00pm. A man in the estate's office says that mugging has increased in the past three years because of unemployment. The estate was designed to be one of the biggest and best in Europe. The original drawings even had pictures of helicopters ferrying residents from the roof. There are numerous notices in the office requesting exchanges. One asks for "a 2 or 3-bedroom flat anywhere in Brent except Chalkhill or Stonebridge". Stonebridge is a nearby estate acquiring a reputation as forbidding as Chalkhill's.

2.15pm. Daddy Malo bounds up. He is dressed in big tortoiseshell spectacles, a patterned pullover and neat jeans. "I'm a gangster. If you don't leave I'll cut your head off. I'm real wicked. Unless you pay me you're in real trouble. You better get out of here." At first it's hard to tell if he's joking so we tell him we have no money. "Hey man, he's not joking. He means it", advises someone from a group watching Daddy Malo dance around us.

We try to change the subject. What is it like living on an estate known as a "muggers' paradise"? "That's a load of bull", snorts Daddy Malo. "It used to be a lot worse but it's cleared up now. They know who the daddies are around here." The group nods. "Tell him about that policeman", one says. "Yeah, there was this big problem with a racist police officer called Ginger", continues Daddy Malo. "When he got hold of a nigger he kicked his head in and then used an iron bar. But he got jumped by about five black boys a long time ago and suffered a great deal of injury. He's not coming back."

With no hope of extracting money for what he says is a "sensational story", Daddy Malo gets bored. He declines to be photographed and lopes off down the corridor with his friends, casually hurling insults. We wonder if this is the first of the gangs we'll meet and if they'll be so friendly at midnight. We return to the car and remove all but a few pounds from our wallets and hide it in a sock under a seat.

I love my flat. If only I could cut it out and put it somewhere else.

3.30pm. PC Dave Rundle and PC Gerald McNamara are patrolling Chalkhill until 10pm. PC Rundle, who is 21, looks completely unflappable and has been on the estate beat for five months. "We get a mixed reaction", he says. "Some of the young guys shout at us or spit. There are some nasty characters about but by the time they're 21 they either cool down or go on to bigger things." PC McNamara was in a panda car hit by a door thrown from above. After that we spend most of our time glancing up at the walkways.

4.00pm. Tea at Gwendoline's. The flat is comfortable with a view of Wembley stadium. "I love my flat", she says. "If only I could cut it out and put it somewhere else." Outside we continue our voyage of exploration. It's getting dark and the corridors are more menacing. There is no one around so we knock on some doors. A man opens his, starts at us open-mouthed, and then slams it.

An Irish mother of six is happy to chat. "There is nothing wrong living here" she says. Two men open another door. "This place is like the Dead Sea man", one says. If he goes out to meet a girl he doesn't say he's from Chalkhill, because she may refuse to come back with him.

There is a siren blast and they run off. We feel safer with the police gone

4.45pm. A police van pulls up and four men pile out. We follow two of them as they check out the walkways. Their arrival is heralded by high-pitched whistling from the estate gangs. A single woman walks past below. The policemen nudge one another and one says "Brave woman", largely, I suspect, for our benefit.

The two others join us and say they've "turfed out" about a dozen youths from a walkway where they were hanging around. "They'll be back when we've gone." The police seem to like the potential danger and are prone to dramatize. There is a sudden sharp blast on the van's siren and they run off. We feel safer with the police gone.

5.00pm. No-one stirrs beyond two resentful cats being forcibly ejected.

5.45pm. Another fruitless sortie. Not a sign of the wild parties and gangs of roaming muggers. Maybe they only come out on warm nights. Our sense of foreboding is beginning to evaporate and we get confident, wandering down corridors, careless whether our presence is known. The council is trying to prevent gangs running down walkways and is spending £1.5m on sealing each one off, so that a group of about 10 flats become self-contained in one corridor. The first ones quickly had the doors kicked down but the council is slowly winning.

6.30am. After a short sleep we again take to the walkways in the sky. Nothing. No sign of the police, gangs, lone muggers or granny victims. Just cats and rain. We walk fast to keep warm. Return to car.

6.45am. Chalkhill is stirring reluctantly. Figures walk steadfastly towards bus stops and the railway station. We meet Hasmukh on his milk round. He is much brighter this morning and introduces us to his friend, also called Hasmukh. They laugh about the previous day's incident. Hasmukh's wife stands in the doorway surrounded by dozens of packets of milk. Is Hasmukh worried that he will meet his attacker again? "No, no", he says quickly. "This time I'm sure it will be all right."

moreover...
Miles Kington

There is a picture hanging in the Photographers Gallery in Great Newport Street called "Christmas Dinner, South London, 1982". It shows a poor woman and two children eating nothing but sausage and beans, and when I saw it last week I felt as depressed and guilty as you do after reading the *Guardian*, which of course is exactly what I was intended to feel. It never occurred to me at the time that less than a week later, at Christmas Day luncheon, I would get much less to eat than that, and that nobody would feel sorry for me.

Things started pretty well. We had gone to stay with my brother in Devon - four of us, four of them, very domestic, no trouble with the washing up rota etc. He lives on top of Dartmoor. If any of my readers is reading this in the prison nearby and decides to escape later, he will see my brother's house near enough if he heads eastwards. Anyway, supper on the first evening was all local produce - oysters and mussels from the River Dart.

Have you ever opened oysters? I never had. What you do is insert a knife and twist it and a little flake of shell comes off. Then you put the blade in somewhere else, twist it again, and another fragment of shell comes off. Then you stick the blade in deeper elsewhere, twist it more sharply and the blade comes off. Then, when you have run out of knives, you apply small hand grenades to one end of the oyster. This just about does the trick, and after about two hours you have a dish of open oysters and a wrecked kitchen. The oysters were delicious. There weren't a great many per person, but we still had Christmas lunch to look forward to.

The next day, Christmas Eve, we had wild duck for supper. Have you ever plucked a duck? I never had. What you do is sit with the duck on your lap and pull the feathers out until you are surrounded by a pile of down 2ft high. This means you have almost completed one wing.

It is astonishing, by the way, that ducks, who spend most of their lives flying around, do not build up mighty wing muscles in the way that ballet dancers have thighs like balloons or tennis players have one hand four sizes larger than the other. But I regret to report that under all those feathers a duck wing looks as puny as a garter with the elastic gone. Perhaps ducks fly with their stomach muscles. Perhaps they walk everywhere these days. You have time for thoughts like these when you are plucking ducks, which takes two hours the way I do it. The duck was delicious: there wasn't much meat but we still had Christmas lunch to look forward to.

With Christmas Day only hours away, my brother and I realized we hadn't seen much of our families yet. We'd been too busy breaking and entering the larder. And now we had to wrap our presents. Have you ever wrapped a present? I had, but you wouldn't think so to look at me. I do it with a roll of sticky tape in one hand and a roll of sticky tape in the other. And the technique I use reminds people of someone trying to get the feathers back on to a wild duck.

The only thing of note that happened before we finally got to bed was that my son was very ill. The only thing of note that happened during the night was that the two girls became very ill. The only interesting thing that happened on Christmas morning was that everyone else fell very ill, and by midday it was like being in the House of the Dying.

We did try to open our Christmas presents. Have you ever tried to open Christmas presents when your strength has sunk to below the strength of sticky tape? It's not easy, especially when you finally rip open the parcel and find that you've been given something edible.

Actually, it wasn't half a bad Christmas day at all: when the sick people are in a majority, it's the few healthy ones who feel the odd ones out. We all crept around feeling sorry for ourselves and totally revelled in it. We speculated endlessly on whether it was the duck or mussels that caused the trouble. We switched off the Queen's broadcast after a couple of minutes because she looked so disgustingly well fed, unless of course it was the colour control.

In fact we felt incredibly virtuous when all eight of us got through the hours of Christmas daylight without touching a single solid. I think all I ever had for Christmas dinner, South Devon, 1983, was a cup of hot Bovril. My brother took a photograph of me doing it. We are sending it to the Photographers Gallery, Great Newport Street. You'll be able to see it there next year.

CONCISE CROSSWORD
(No 235)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
				8		
					9	
					10	
11					12	
13						
14		15				
16			17	18	19	
20						21
						22
23						
						24
						25

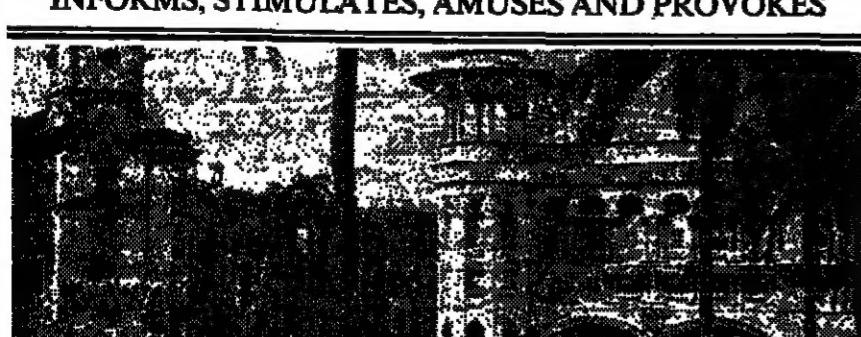
ACROSS
1 French resort area (7)
2 Petain's sent (5)
3 Discomfiture (13)
4 Eccentric orbit (11)
5 Nightmarish demon (7)
10 Turns over (3)
11 Stainer (4)
12 Appetite (7)
14 Boston state (13)
16 Joint forces (7)
18 Straw beehive (4)
21 Furious (5)
22 Put to death (7)
23 Short nap (3)
24 Jumped (5)
25 Easily dissolved (7)

DOWN
1 Decapitated building (4)
2 Petain's sent (5)
3 Discomfiture (13)
4 Eccentric orbit (11)
5 Hawksbill turtle (13)
6 Dependant (7)
7 Secret (4,4)
8 Majestic (8)
13 Seedless raisin (7)
15 Castle off (5)
17 American suburb (5)
19 American suburb (5)
20 We are (4)
22 Use (4)

SOLUTION TO No 234
ACROSS: 1 Format 5 Attach 8 Rob 9 Sienna 10 Artful 11 Feed 12 Nihilist 14 Kangaroo court 17 Unbelief 19 Aura 21 Pseudo 23 Azimuths 24 Nun 25 Lycres 26 Diesel
DOWN: 2 Opine 3 Monologue 4 Trainer 5 Abash 6 INT 7 Cruiser 13 Lookalike 15 Amnesty 16 Offhand 18 Irons 20 Rouge 22 Use

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



Railway Station, Kuala Lumpur

- Great expectations: The top people's resolutions
- Travel: For ever England in Malaysia; young and away in the USA
- PLUS: News from home and abroad; Gardening; Review of the month's new paperbacks; hangover cures; Family Life on planning the perfect children's party; a critical guide to the arts and The Week Ahead; Bridge; Chess; Prize Concise Crossword

Can you always get your copy of THE TIMES?

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of THE TIMES

Name _____

Address _____

COMM
The AB
of exam

Safety in
numbers

C

SAFETY
LAW
MADE
SIMPLER
BY
THE
COUNCIL
OF
LONDON

FRIDAY PAGE

COMMENT

The ABCs of exams

It is about time the debate about educational standards moved to more constructive ground. Of course, one of the main priorities of education must be to improve standards, but we need a proper definition of what that involves. If Britain is to prosper in the twenty-first century, our schools must develop the all-round talents, non-academic as well as academic, of all our children. Any adequate assessment of how we are doing will, therefore, require far more than a comparison of examination results.

Where do we stand today? In spite of the prophets of doom, there is no evidence of a decline in standards. On the contrary, after a decade in which most of our secondary schools went comprehensive, more children are passing exams than ever before.

Though results have obviously been influenced by the introduction of CSE exams and by the raising of the school-leaving age, the percentage of those leaving school without passing any exam has fallen dramatically. Equally impressively, the percentage of the relevant age group achieving between one and four O-levels and of the group achieving five O-levels has increased significantly, while the proportion passing A-levels has also improved, marginally. Even investigations into areas where there are difficulties (such as the Cockcroft report into mathematics) confirm that there is no sign of falling standards.

It is, however, wrong to rely on exam results alone as a measure of educational performance. Exams like O and A-level are not necessarily an effective guide to intellectual achievement or potential. As the report of the House of Commons education select committee pointed out, such exams tend to put a premium on memory and exam technique rather than on the capacity to reason and argue.

The present exam system at 16-plus is designed to cater for some children only. It is true that, with the introduction of CSE, six out of seven pupils obtain an examination certificate in at least one subject by the time they leave school. But only 55 per cent achieve one O-level pass (O-Grade A to C or CSE Grade 1) and only just over 25 per cent of 17-year-olds achieve five O-level passes. No wonder that it has been called a "failure system".

So what should be done? There is no quick way to improve standards. The task is especially difficult at a time when schools are starved of resources, when the bleak prospects for school-leavers must make many pupils question the purpose and value of education.

There are, however, some initiatives that can be taken in the near future. We need an early decision from Sir Keith Joseph in favour of a common exam at 16-plus. Although the CSE exam can often provide a more appropriate test than O-level, it is undeniable that employers, pupils and even teachers have looked on it as inferior. What is now required, in the words of the education select committee, is a "common system catering for a very wide range of ability without pressing inappropriate criteria on any individual group".

There is also a strong case for developing a national system of profile reports for school-leavers which record all successes and achievements (whether academic or not) and throw light on such qualities as enthusiasm, persistence, willingness to accept responsibilities and the ability to participate constructively in group activity. Such a development could act as a counter to the idea that exams are the be-all and end-all of schooling.

I remain an optimist about the education system. We have moved forward over the last decade and with intelligence, persistence and vision, we should make even greater advances over the next decade.

Giles Radice

The author, Labour MP for Durham East, is the Opposition education spokesman.

Safety in numbers

6 The safe delivery of Mrs Janet Walton's six girls is a triumph for the Liverpool obstetric and paediatric teams. They are now Britain's only surviving sextuplets and the only ones in the world of the same sex. The Waltons' unalloyed delight at finding themselves parents of a well-stocked premature baby unit would not be echoed by all prospective parents. For this reason and because of the high mortality rate for very small babies, every effort is made to reduce the chance of multiple pregnancies, so that the likelihood of this happening to a woman undergoing infertility treatment is small.

Before conception Mrs Walton was having treatment for failure to ovulate. In these cases two types of hormone are used. After the first, if there is evidence that a multiple pregnancy is likely, the second is omitted, and at the next attempt a smaller dose is substituted. Monitoring is achieved by measuring blood levels of oestrogen and the counting, with the aid of a scanner, of enlarged follicles on the ovaries.

For unknown reasons Mrs Walton's oestrogen levels were well within normal limits, and did not rise to the levels expected in a multiple pregnancy. In retrospect it is

Alan Franks nurses a hangover and reflects that seasonal goodwill has been sorely tried

Some years ago a wag in the greetings industry came up with this desperate little stanza:

Christmas comes but once a year,
Bringing fog and fruitless cheer.
You're sure to have a hectic time,
But Merry Christmas just the same.

I agree. Terrible. But the man deserves just a pinch of credit for attempting an Alternative Message and for getting in that word "hectic", somehow overlooked for two millennia by Yuletide lyricists.

If only it rhymed properly with dyspeptic, we would have the basis for a really first class Christmas couplet.

Look around you: children in varying stages of that dreadful seasonal ailment, PHD (Post-Hysteria Depression); yourself a victim of the adult counterpart, a hangover; cosmic weaponry all over the drawing room, with beeps and flashes dreamed up in a spirit of punishment; and across the carpet a layer of Anti-Hoover Material, formerly known as Sikk spruce needles. They say that Christmas is for children; in my opinion, formed in this trough between the two great festive peaks, the only truth in such a statement is that Christmas is definitely not for adults.

Have you noticed, parent, how your offspring ripped and raped those envelopes which bore their name? How they discarded the card and forged for the hub of the communication an autumnal dropping of green notes? How there was an obscene premium on the parity between the siblings' takings? You haven't? Then there is a terrible opacity in your vision, or else your children dimmable so well that they are a discredit to you.

I submit that when parents trot



out this tired old disclaimer about Christmas being for the children, what they are really doing is expecting their young (whom they have after all created in their own image) to go through a similar piece of duplicity: outwardly treating the whole protracted affair as some celebration of divinity, and inwardly yearning for material gain.

The whole thing has an awesome momentum about it, recession or no. Hamleys of Regent Street sustained a tremendous growth in their toy sales this year, with Star Wars artefacts outstripping the rest of the field; these included the Millennium Falcon Vehicle at £22.99,

the AT-AT Giant Imperial Mechanical Monster at £29.99, and the Snow Speeder at £12.99. It occurred to me that some of these prices would strain the resources of most families but I can only conclude that I am out of touch with the *real/economik* of parental budgets at Christmas.

(Am I alone in laughing rather sickly at the recurrent suffix of 99 pence on all the prices? Can the stores really believe that £29.99 looks any closer to £29 simply because the buyer stands to get some "change" from his three tenners? Who do they think they are fooling? They must believe that suckers are

alive and well and living in debt, because the play has ended, to my knowledge, ever since Davy Crockett hats went for 6/11d.)

Do you not also agree, parent, that if the nativity and its related produce were subjected to marketing techniques one fifth as sophisticated as those which sell toys, we should overnight become the most religiously devout nation this side of Islam?

I suppose the commercial prince this Christmas was either Roland Rat (Hamleys sold out of the creature), or the Cabbage Patch Doll, neither of which has even the most tangential connection with

Christmas. The first originated from a last cynical throw to boost a TV company's breakfast ratings, the second from a clever exploitation of the adoptive instincts which somehow survives in our children.

If these same children are today, five days after Christmas, retching, feverish and liverish, they deserve our tolerance, but because of our own condition they will probably get only our impatience. It is the age groups below six and over 13 which suffer the most. Members of the first may well not have had their crudity defiled, and could be termed the Santaritis. Sensing the anticipation which by the end of last week had bloomed into hysteria, they came out in sympathy.

Something beneath this behaviour there was no doubt the desire to please their parents, but after several days of sustained excitement they simply overheated and lost control. When adults are overtaken by a similar surfeit, the symptoms are somnolence, or boredom, or cramp of the smile, but children's reactive modes are less refined, and screaming is the common outlet.

As for the teenagers, they are in danger of falling into a Christmas limbo somewhere between childhood and adulthood. They are no longer in the frontline where gifts are concerned (at this age it may even be uncool to get too worked up about the festivities), but they could certainly use a good hefty present. If the week just ended is an index of a trend, then cash gifts are becoming more popular. Prosaic maybe, but infinitely convertible.

The other vital message, which a number of donors have just learnt the hard way, is this: if your child wants a Sony Walkman Two, don't get a Boy George album, don't settle for a Michael Jackson.

This year's prize error was by a north London parent who bought a Boots token for the eldest, although there is no Boots in the area. That is certainly not what Christmas is all about.

Women in Hungary

Changing minds

In Budapest, a man steps off the train and turns to give his hands to his wife, who follows him down. The old-world courtesy of the gesture seems incongruous in a country where official policy goes further than anywhere in the West in institutionalizing equality of the sexes. But that brief pantomime may give a truer picture of the status of women in Hungarian society than any number of official statements.

The egalitarian measures implemented in Hungary after the Second World War were superimposed on a society organized on highly traditional lines. The new order meant that more and more women went



A traditional role for this peasant woman

out to work until today nearly 90 per cent do so.

The state has done a great deal to ease the burden of working mothers. They have the right to five month's maternity leave on full pay, and then either parent can stay at home for up to three years, drawing an allowance from the state, and still return to the same job. State kindergartens care for 88 per cent of children from three to six years old.

Responsibility for the smooth running of the home, however, and the health and well-being of the family, still tends to fall on women rather than men.

All this means that the women are carrying a double burden, just as working mothers do in the West. At nine or ten divorces per thousand existing marriages per year, the rate of marital breakdown is acknowledged to be high.

Meanwhile, women are clearly at a disadvantage in the labour market. On average, women in socialist countries earn only 70 to 80 per cent of the income enjoyed by men. Even these are official figures; in Hungary, almost everyone supplements a modest wage by moonlighting, dealing in black-market goods or otherwise cheating the system. Women, with responsibilities at home, have less time for this sort of activity. As in the West, all but the most highly qualified women tend to be concentrated in sectors of the labour market that are low-paid.

Hungarian women who choose to pursue courses of higher education and training experience few obstacles compared with their western contemporaries, and are much better represented in "male" professions. But once they start work, their prospects for promotion become worse and worse as time passes.

Katalin Koncz, senior lecturer at the Karl Marx University of Economics in Budapest, attributes most disadvantages to the state's failure, despite its efforts to create an environment in which women can work on an equal footing with men.

In Hungary there seems to be little more to be achieved through legislation. But a great deal can still be done through bringing up boys and girls to have the same aims and accept the same responsibilities. The experience is a reminder for western women, still struggling for many of the rights Hungarian women already take for granted, that changes in government policy do not automatically bring about change of attitudes.

Georgia Ferry

Christmas through the ages: what the children thought



Kate Gillman, aged eight



William McDowell, aged four



William Palmer, aged 14

Before:
"I would like a briefcase for school because my other bag is torn. I've been going on about it for nearly a year. I'm looking forward to going to church, I go regularly, but dad only comes with us at Christmas because he's not a Catholic. I don't like turkey, because it's just like chicken, so we have a big chicken on Christmas Day, and ham on Boxing Day."

After:
"I got the briefcase I wanted, and I also got a game of Monopoly from Father Christmas. I don't think it's an easy game because sometimes it's hard to keep what you've got, houses and things. Midnight Mass was quite nice because there were choirboys in the front row and girls in the organ loft..."

Before:
"I went to Appletown and saw a suit of armour, and it made me want it. Not a real one. It might be gone by now, because there is only one there. I'm not sure whether to put my stocking on the wardrobe, or the bedpost, or the doorknob. The wardrobe, I think, because it's the highest place and Father Christmas will see it. He will bring me an extra present because I've bumped my nose. I'm not sure what the extra present will be, but it could be the plastic fencing sword, which I also saw in Appletown."

After:
"My extra present was a Mister Happy hot water bottle for when I've got a cold. The shield is the wrong shape; it is a round one and it should have been a long one, like Mrs Palmer's. The helmet has knobs in it which hurt my brother's head. But my head is the right shape for a Roman helmet, so it doesn't hurt me. Father Christmas saw the stocking, so it was lucky I left it on the wardrobe - but he gave the plastic fencing sword to my brother."

Before:

"I've got a vague idea what I'm getting. I think it's a record player, and I know I'm getting a pair of jeans. The record player won't be new; it'll be a mended one. I'm giving my brother Andrew a Clint Eastwood poster... I'm looking forward to the whole day, not just the presents but also the lunch and the other events."

After:
"I got the record player, but I also got a pair of speakers, which I wasn't expecting. I know they were dad's old ones, because he's just bought a new pair, but that doesn't matter... The whole day definitely lived up to expectations; in fact, I would say it was better, partly because I had forgotten how nice the Christmas lunch is. Oh yes, and I gave mum a diary and dad a drill-bit."

Anyone who's mean enough to celebrate the New Year without Smirnoff might need this card.

PLEASE EXCUSE ME AS I HAVE TEMPORARILY LOST MY VOICE.

Happy New Year!

CUT OUT, THEN DISPLAY AFTER EVERY SLUG OF CHEAP VODKA.

SMIRNOFF

IF IT ISN'T SMOOTH IT ISN'T SMIRNOFF

MEDICAL BRIEFING

form in the lower part of the oesophagus (gullet).

Recently improved techniques have been introduced to help surgeons in their attempt to staunch the flow of blood which follows the bursting of one of these veins, but all too often their efforts are vain.

Harmful treatment

Two years ago Professor J. R. A. Mitchell, of Nottingham University, published the results of a survey

"The doctor lies who tells a 70-year-old man that he knows that his blood pressure needs treating, if he says the same thing to a 70-year-old woman he lies twice over, for the truth is that he can only speak from the most enormous ignorance, as the majority of research on which his advice is based has been done on men under 60."

Trace of life

Dr Richards, Harley Street doctor formerly of Sandbach, now defending himself in America against

charges concerning conspiracy to murder his partner, has recently written the foreword to a book extolling the advantages of taking the trace element, selenium. Recent articles in both the BMJ and the Lancet would seem to support this.

The importance of trace elements to human health, long recognized in veterinary medicine, has only recently received publicity. Magnesium and selenium have both been the object of recent reports.

Selenium soil levels are low in Britain, except in a small area of North Norfolk where, whether as a result of this or by chance, there is a particularly good record for longevity. High selenium levels throughout the world seem to be associated with

low levels of malignant disease.

A few years ago a scientist employed by one pharmaceutical firm was considered such a bore because of his preoccupation with the importance of magnesium that he was eventually dismissed. Unfortunately for him he was in advance of his time, for now the importance of this trace element is widely recognized.

Low levels occur in some soft-water areas, and seem to be one of the factors contributing to an increased incidence of hypertension.

Low blood levels, which can result from excessive alcohol intake or some strong diuretic "water pills", increase the heart's irritability so that an abnormal rhythm, possibly fatal, may occur.

Kindest cut?

Before the war, circumcision was the hallmark without which middle-class delivery was complete, but since then in Britain, it has been condemned by paediatricians as a dangerous mutilation.

Venerologists have had doubts about this reasoning.

Apart from the often quoted

freedom the operation is said to ensure from cancer of the penis and a sometimes disfiguring skin disease, BXO, they have always had the impression that minor skin and other infections are seen less often in the circumcised.

In order to investigate the theory that the operation is mutilating, functionally a mistake and aesthetically undesirable a simple survey was carried out a few years ago among very promiscuous women patients attending a London clinic, the only people whose judgment was considered to be less affected by emotion. By an overwhelming majority they declared a preference for circumcised men.

To this anecdotal evidence is now added a report from Australia.

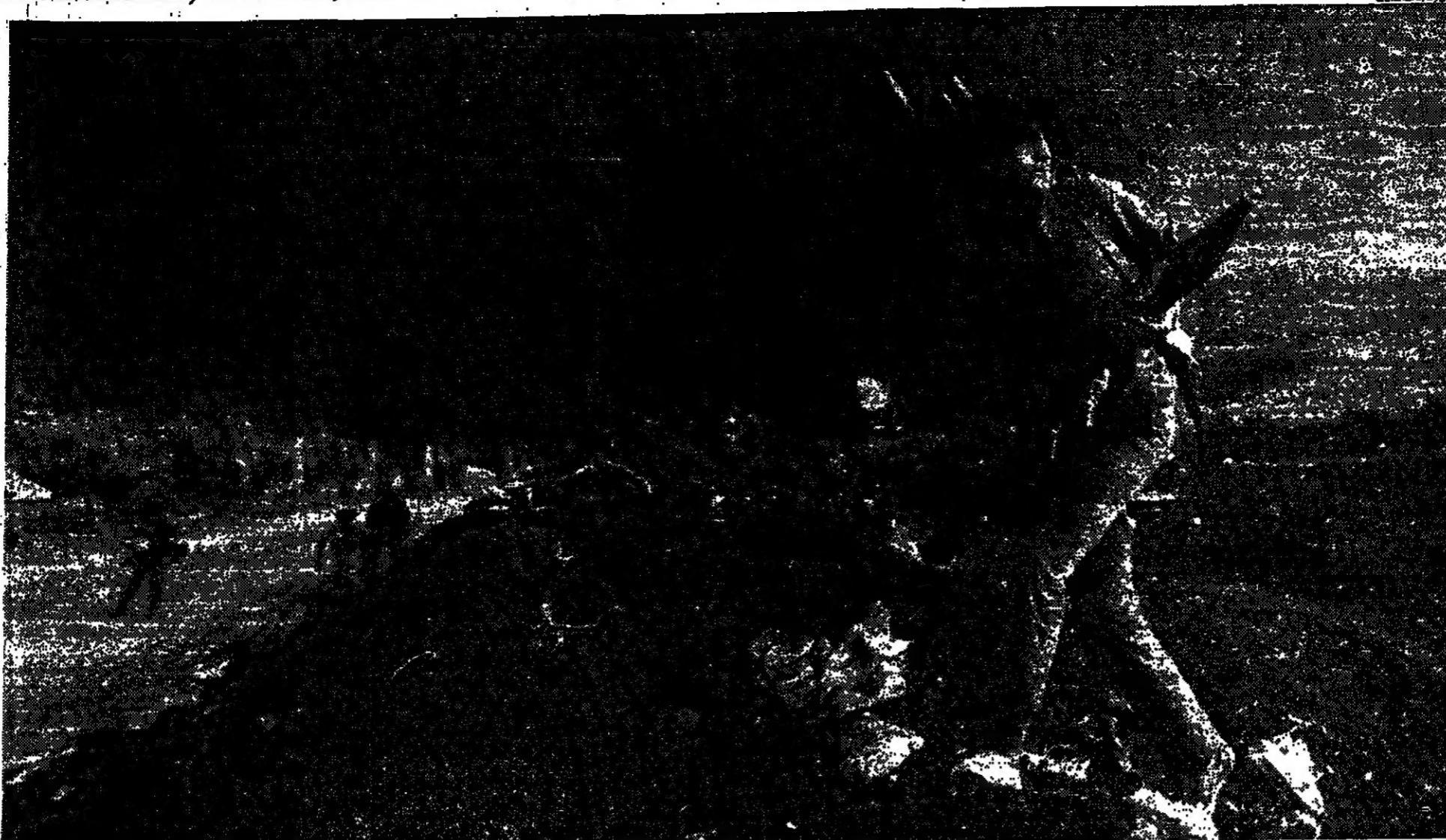
A team from the University of Western Australia has found that herpes and gonorrhoea was twice as common in the uncircumcised; in thrush, and in the small number of cases of syphilis, five times as common. Unfortunately, these figures have not been corrected for a possible social-class bias.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

Review of the year 1983

George Hill ponders Lebanon, Grenada, Parkinson's sin, seat belts, acid rain, Andropov's cold, and finally drifts off into the void...

Enchanted by



Lebanon: still dodging round shattered blocks of reinforced concrete

So we fastened our seatbelts and gingerly steered off into the last lap of history before George Orwell's year of dust and ashes. Most of our lives have been spent under the approaching shadow that his prophecy cast with such precision across the calendar. On Sunday we shall wake up to find ourselves inside it, like victims of that science fiction story-line currently in vogue, who become incorporated in the landscape of a video game, forced to enact its imaginary conflicts in deadly earnest.

The initial view is less bleak than we had feared: we still have our freedoms (haven't we? No replacements issued if mislaid), and most of even our unemployed enjoy greater material wealth than average inhabitants of Orwell's fable, or his England. But our blistering and unreconciled world power-blocks sound more like him than they did a year ago and have infinitely greater destructive power at their disposal, than he dreamt of. And there is no inkling in his dystopia of acid rain, half-price heroin, Dennis Nilsen, radioactive sandcastles, video nasties or the National Gallery Extension.

As for the rest of the world, there has never been a time when existence in Airstrip One would have seemed in many places other than inevitably ample and unconstrained. Big Brother would appear an indulgent overseer to those under the eye of the Ayatollah. For many in Sri Lanka and Assam, it was enough to have survived the year alive. Its wars, from the Gulf to El Salvador, were all of the kind that seem indefinitely extensible; if the inhabitants of each battle zone are reduced eventually to two, it can be assumed that they will still be dodging round shattered blocks of reinforced concrete, lobbing grenades at each other.

British forces were involved in, or exposed to, the fighting in Lebanon, as part of an international force sent into the vacuum left by the Israelis. Its mission was to interpose itself between the combatants and draw the fire of each until such time as trust and harmony re-established themselves. The combatants accepted this diversionary invitation with gusto, and civilian carnage was successfully reduced, though at the cost of several hundred American and French lives.

But to return to the seatbelts. The inner irony of the political life is that in spite of all the noise and glamour of power, politicians can seldom say: "We caused that, and it was a good thing" – at least, not without secretly crossing their fingers. The economy may start looking up, after 42 successive months of rising unemployment, but is that because of one's policies, or in spite of them?

Channel a little extra tax relief to the struggling mortgagees, and ungrateful tenants are sure to cry foul because their housing benefit has been cut. Secure a subsidy of millions from the tobacco industry for the unimpeachable cause of health research, and someone will grumble because the effects of smoking have been excluded from the project.

But last January's seat belt order came as near as political action can to unequivocal good. Some 300 people will be toasting in Orwell Year tonight who would otherwise be dead now, and several thousand more would be serious casualties. One of those who may owe their lives to a seatbelt was elected leader of the Opposition shortly afterwards. If the salvation of the Labour Party thus proves eventually to have been brought about by a Tory enactment, that will be just one more of the little ironies of politics.

accepted the report and Mr Sharon resigned.

The 1981 Derby winner Shergar was kidnapped from co Kildare. 10 The General Synod rejected unilateral nuclear disarmament. Remains of three men were found in a drain in North London; on the 11th Dennis Andrew Nilsen was charged with murder; on Nov 4 he was found guilty on six counts of murder and two attempted; his sentence recommended at least 25 years in prison.

11 Inflation fell to 4.8 per cent. The Sunday Times and Daily Star were found guilty of contempt of court in respect of reports about Mr Michael Fagan.

The Government stated it had rejected dual-key control for cruise missiles because of the £1,000 cost.

12 The Soviet satellite Cosmos 1403 fell harmlessly into the Indian Ocean.

Bjorn Borg announced his retirement from world tennis.

In Rome, among the sentences on the Red Brigade terrorists were 32 life for 17 murders including that of Aldo Moro.

13 Water and sewage workers began an official strike; it ended on Feb 24.

The pound fell to \$1.5405, its lowest ever.

A common fisheries policy for the EEC was initiated in Brussels.

China committed the death sentence imposed in Jan 1981 on Mac Tae-Tung, widow, Jiang Qing.

The Court of Appeal dismissed two applications for judicial review of decisions of the Boundary Commission.

21 David Martin was recaptured in London; he was jailed for 25 years on Oct 11.

30 Druze militia began shelling Beirut.

31 Car seatbelt wearing became compulsory.

President Reagan offered to meet Mr Andropov for a missile pact; the offer was rejected.

13 Two Soviet officials were expelled from London for espionage (see also Sept 29).

14 Mr Stephen Waldford was shot by police in London in the belief that he was David Martin who had escaped from custody on Christmas Eve (see also 28 and Oct 19).

Two RAF officers were found guilty of accidentally shooting down a Jaguar aircraft on May 25, 1982.

16 The IRA murdered Judge William in Belfast.

Forty-seven people were killed when a Turkish Airlines Boeing 727 crashed at Ankara.

17 Nigeria expelled two million aliens; on the 31st Ghana opened its borders to its nationals.

The BBC's early-morning television began; independent TV-am began on Feb 7.

18 The Franks Committee on the invasion of the Falklands by Argentina reported: it could not have been foreseen; the machinery of government and British intelligence was open to criticism.

The Court of Appeal ruled that refusal to work overtime by a group of employees was "industrial action".

Danmark ended its dispute with the EEC on fishing.

Lance-Corporal Philip Leslie Aldridge was sentenced to four years' imprisonment for passing secret information to Russia.

19 Mr Michael Fagan, who broke into the Queen's bedroom on July 9 last year, was released from a Liverpool mental hospital.

After five years of semi-autonomous rule, Namibia came under direct rule by South Africa.

20 The Serpell report on British Rail suggested a smaller system and higher commuter fares.

Job losses announced: British Shipbuilders - 2,300; on the 21st,

7 The 100-nation non-aligned movement summit opened in Delhi. Ninety-eight miners were killed in a pit explosion in Turkey.

8 A 1985 £1,000 bank note was auctioned at Spink's for £8,800.

9 Miners voted against a strike on pit closures and on the 10th agreed to stop their year-old boycott of the NCGM.

10 The IRA killed the wife of an Army sergeant in Londonderry.

The Attorney-General ruled that the post-coital pill was "not illegal".

11 Russia again refused to allow Dr Sakharov to leave the country.

In one week, two black men died while in police custody in Dinkelsdorp, Transvaal. British Rail losses for 1982 were

ended the age of the dinosaurs, and numerous grinning dinosaur skulls turned up all over England south of Watford, as if to mock us for imagining that we could manage our affairs any better than they.

The final successor of Big Brother spent most of the year unseen and unheard, engaged in a secret contest with illness and the inertia of a political system programmed to hold only one course.

Sapped of the astringent energy he

showed a year ago, Mr Andropov

appeared as helpless as the captain of some immense airliner with

hundreds of souls on board, locked

in automatic pilot and cruising inexorably into dangerous airspace.

Winter this year was once again of

the kind implying that spring cannot be far behind. Further behind than usual, however. As far south as Kent

England experienced a freakish and

exquisite White Easter. The weather

ended man in her cabinet for indecisiveness in his private life, and for having aroused the spite of someone adept at manipulating the media.

On The Day After, picking over the rubble, we observed that the Tories had gained the most decisive majority in 30 years on a slightly reduced minority share of the vote; that Labour retained a third of the seats with 28 per cent of the vote, and that Alliance had secured 26 per cent of the vote and one twenty-eighth of the seats. So this was what was meant by letting the voice of the people be heard, the ghost of Orwell whispered caustically.

But the first prime minister this century to win a working majority twice running was on top of the world. Or so one might have expected. Yet instead, events bore out Wellington's maxim about a battle won being only the next worst thing to a battle lost.

In addition, Mrs Thatcher was forced to dispense with the band-

standards and multilateralism went hand in hand.

On The Day After, picking over the rubble, we observed that the Tories had gained the most decisive majority in 30 years on a slightly reduced minority share of the vote; that Labour retained a third of the seats with 28 per cent of the vote, and that Alliance had secured 26 per cent of the vote and one twenty-eighth of the seats. So this was what was meant by letting the voice of the people be heard, the ghost of Orwell whispered caustically.

But the first prime minister this century to win a working majority twice running was on top of the world. Or so one might have expected. Yet instead, events bore out Wellington's maxim about a battle won being only the next worst thing to a battle lost.

Disarmers and deterers both

found welcome reinforcement for

their cases during the year in a study

which indicated that even a

desultory nuclear exchange would

fill the stratosphere with enough

dust to plunge the globe into an

Arctic winter lasting for years. Just

such a cataclysm is said to have

ended man in her cabinet for indecisiveness in his private life, and for having aroused the spite of someone adept at manipulating the media.

In the last analysis unemployment

was to blame, as for most other evils

of the time. If it were not so

notoriously difficult for an able and

resourceful woman to get ahead in

the Tory party, Miss Margaret Thatcher

would probably have found fulfilment

nursing a safe seat instead of a

baby, and have gone harmlessly to the backbenches, never to be heard of again.

Disarmers and deterers both

found welcome reinforcement for

their cases during the year in a study

which indicated that even a

desultory nuclear exchange would

fill the stratosphere with enough

dust to plunge the globe into an

Arctic winter lasting for years. Just

such a cataclysm is said to have

ended man in her cabinet for indecisiveness in his private life, and for having aroused the spite of someone adept at manipulating the media.

In the last analysis unemployment

was to blame, as for most other evils

of the time. If it were not so

notoriously difficult for an able and

resourceful woman to get ahead in

the Tory party, Miss Margaret Thatcher

would probably have found fulfilment

nursing a safe seat instead of a

baby, and have gone harmlessly to the backbenches, never to be heard of again.

Disarmers and deterers both

found welcome reinforcement for

their cases during the year in a study

which indicated that even a

desultory nuclear exchange would

fill the stratosphere with enough

dust to plunge the globe into an

Arctic winter lasting for years. Just

such a cataclysm is said to have

ended man in her cabinet for indecisiveness in his private life, and for having aroused the spite of someone adept at manipulating the media.

In the last analysis unemployment

was to blame, as for most other evils

of the time. If it were not so

notoriously difficult for an able and

resourceful woman to get ahead in

the Tory party, Miss Margaret Thatcher

would probably have found fulfilment

nursing a safe seat instead of a

baby, and have gone harmlessly to the backbenches, never to be heard of again.

Disarmers and deterers both

found welcome reinforcement for

their cases during the year in a study

which indicated that even a

desultory nuclear exchange would

fill the stratosphere with enough

dust to plunge the globe into an

Arctic winter lasting for years. Just

such a cataclysm is said to have

ended man in her cabinet for indecisiveness in his private life, and for having aroused the spite of someone adept at manipulating the media.

In the last analysis unemployment

was to blame, as for most other evils

of the time. If it were not so

notoriously difficult for an able and

resourceful woman to get ahead in

the Tory party, Miss Margaret Thatcher

would probably have found fulfilment

nursing a

continued from facing page
ruled that Britain's rate of taxation on wine was illegal.
The General Synod voted 407-36 against the reintroduction of capital punishment.

15 The Commons rejected the reintroduction of the death penalty by a majority of 145.
A landmine killed four UDR men in Co Tyrone; two Catholics were killed in South Armagh.

The MCC voted not to send a team to South Africa.

14 The General Synod approved a scheme for divorces to marry in church.

15 The European security review conference in Madrid (opened November, 1980) closed with an understanding to promote détente.

Armenian terrorists exploded a bomb at Orly airport, Paris, killing five people.

17 A British Airways Sikorsky S1 helicopter crashed off the Scilly Isles, killing 20 people.

18 Details were revealed of the skeleton of an unknown species of dinosaur found in January in a Surrey claypit.

21 The Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior was chased by a Russian gunboat; seven members were held at Lorino, Siberia.

Public expenditure 1984-5 was planned at £126,400m.

Martial law ended in Poland.

Among the 17 life peers in the dissolution honours were Sir Harold Wilson and Mr Gerard Fitz.

"I recognised it as a dinosaur claw but I didn't know how important it was. I gave it a good crack with my hammer and the whole thing disintegrated," William Walker, a Surrey plumber, speaking about his discovery of the skeleton of a hitherto unknown species of dinosaur. July 19

22 Beirut airport was shelled by Druze forces. (see also Aug 10).

24 Six British mercenaries imprisoned in an abortive coup against President Rene of the Seychelles were released.

25 The US flew aid to Mr Habre in Chad in his fight against Libyan-backed rebels.

26 Three Palestinian students were killed; more than 30 injured at Hebron, Jordan.

Mrs Victoria Gifford failed to obtain a court order that her daughters would not be given contraceptives without her consent.

A White Paper proposed that the Government should take over London Transport.

27 Fighting and clashes between Sinhalese and Tamils swept Sri Lanka; 52 deaths in two prisons were reported (see also Aug 1). British Shipbuilders' losses 1982-3 were £125m; 9,000 jobs to be shed in two years.

The House of Lords ruled that a female barrister could not claim tax relief on court attire.

28 In the Penwith by-election the Conservative majority of 15,421 was cut to 552 by the Alliance candidate.

The Hurricane in Europe continued - 104°F Germany.

US warships took up positions 100 miles off the Pacific coast of Central America.

29 The marriage of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent in 1978 was validated by the Roman Catholic Church.

30 An unarmed Catholic youth was killed by the UDR in Armagh.

31 Eight swimmers were drowned off the coast of Clare.

Two riders were killed in the Motorcycling Grand Prix at Silverstone.

AUGUST

The death toll in Sri Lanka mounted to 185 civilians; the communist Party was proscribed; final number of deaths was 350; fifty-five people were killed in Belfast for terrorism; no evidence of an IRA ringleader; four received life sentences.

5 An aircraft attacked Chad with phosphorus bombs. Milton Street, 18, became the first man to swim the 1000m non-stop (21 min).

San hostages were shot dead.

6 Stars in an Avignon hotel.

Aled by Captain Sankara on Major Jean-Baptiste Coggi in Upper Volta.

7 Bombs exploded in Bk, Lebanon, killing 33.

8 A needless coup in Guinea.

Guinea: General Victorio M.

1 September 1983.

Lebanese army retaliated.

Bde Druze shelling.

McLean crossed the

At a 7in craft in 62 days.

10 "Iron awards included the

Pg George Medal to Mr

Kagwad, killed trying to

climb in Oxford Street,

Oct 1981.

Reagan's troops took the

Ct of Fajr-Large.

Brian dismissed 13

activists.

12 A protest in Chile against regime of President Pinochet people were killed.

13 athletic

champs in Helsinki, Steve

Crates and Daley

Decathlon) won gold

me

of an infiltrator.

socialist who

ated a job."

ie Grant, one of

cd left-wing

ators at Bl-

quist 15

15 ops were in action

egels.

Sgt with Unita

guaranteed a key town in

An

16 Medical

Assn in an inquiry into

alleged treatments.

17 jogged to France

for the war to the

warus Barbi.

18 Donegal rescued an fugitives kidnapped

by

21 fine ban to Russia of D1 was lifted.

Theader in the

Philippines Aquino,

were killed in Manila.

22 ends in the Sind

protests erupting into

violent police.

23 tropov offered to

destroy SS20s in return for the US not deploying new missiles in Europe.

Nicaraguan insurgents increased their attacks.

24 President dos Santos of Angola rejected the withdrawal of Cuban troops.

A US athlete, Sydney Maree, ran a record 1,500 metres - 3min 31.24sec - in Cologne (see also Sept 4).

25 Two US Marines were killed by Shia Muslims in Beirut.

Mr Mike Spring, a disabled yachtsman, arrived at Penzance after a 2,500 mile round trip to the Azores.

SEPTEMBER

1 The US accused Russia of shooting down a Korean Airlines Boeing 747 carrying 266 people over the Sakhalin Islands; Russia admitted the act on the 6th (see also 14).

2 Unemployment fell for the first time since 1979.

3 Israel withdrew from the Chouf mountain area in Lebanon, leaving war to break out between Christian and Druze militias.

Steve Ottewell regained his 1,500 metres record from Sydney Maree with 3min 30.77 sec in Italy.

4 Moderates obtained a large majority on the TUC Council.

5 The Final Document of the Madrid European Security Review Conference was published.

Rebel aircraft attacked Managua in Nicaragua.

6 Dublin expelled two Soviet diplomats for "unacceptable" actions.

7 RAF fighters were in action over the Chouf mountains, Lebanon.

8 A Canadian television reporter was killed in Lebanon.

Russia expelled a US diplomat "for spying".

The National Trust acquired Belton House, Lincolnshire.

9 Father Peter Hans Kolvenbach was elected head of the Society of Jesus.

10 Sotheby's was bought by an American, Mr Alfred Taubman.

Russia rejected any claim for compensation for the destruction of the Korean jet.

11 Increase for public servants was announced.

Israel's prime minister, Mr Menachem Begin, resigned (see also Oct 10).

Mr Neil Kinnock renounced the Labour Party pledge to leave the EEC.

12 I am 65 years old and I

simply don't have the time

to wait until these

government officials finally

arrived at an understanding

of culture that will be

worthy of my native land."

Yuri Lyubimov on the threat to his theatre in Moscow September 5

16 Sir Clive Sinclair's pocket TV was launched.

17 St Kitts-Nevis became an independent state.

BP shares went on sale, reducing the price by 10% from £10.50 to

£9.50.

The US Navy shelled Druze forces.

20 The death toll in the 17-year war in Namibia was reported to have risen to more than 10,000.

Mr George Morgan completed the longest ever walk - Tierra del Fuego to Alaska - 19,000 miles in 2,428 days.

21 The Liberal Party voted for a united Ireland.

22 Dunlop agreed to sell 25 per cent of its tyre making to Japanese Sumitomo Rubber.

Talks on the future of Hong Kong resumed.

24 At Monza, Italy, executives of the Givaudan company received prison sentences for their part in the 1976 Seveso disaster.

25 Thirty-eight IRA prisoners shot dead in 1972 in a prison in Northern Ireland.

26 More than 6,000 tons of oil escaped in the Humber estuary when the Iranian tanker Sivard rammed the Immingham terminal.

27 Britain expelled a Soviet trade official for spying.

30 Job losses: 5,000 NHS; 7,000 at Chatham naval dockyard.

OCTOBER

2 Mr Neil Kinnock was elected leader of the Labour Party; Mr Roy Hattersley, his deputy.

3 The extradition of an IRA man in San Francisco was refused, on appeal.

Many PLO leaders defected from the staff of Yasir Arafat.

Interest rates cut from 9% to 8 per cent.

4 President Reagan offered a "pull down" nuclear arms deal.

5 The Labour Party Conference voted for both the NEC and Bishop.

6 Radioactive seaweed was discovered on the beaches near the Sellafield nuclear plant, Cumbria (formerly Windscale).

7 The Griffith Report on NHS recommended the appointment of "general managers".

Billingsgate, Cleveland and East Yorkshire, were named as possible sites for disposal of radioactive waste.

8 The Trade Union Bill introducing compulsory secret ballots was published.

9 The revised Police and Criminal Evidence Bill was published; two White Papers proposed a national independent prosecution service and stronger supervision on handling complaints against the police.

10 The Court of Appeal ruled that a priest is a "servant of God" not

subject to jurisdiction in an industrial tribunal.

11 A US oil rig sank in South China Sea with all 81 on board lost.

12 An earthquake in eastern Turkey killed at least 500 people.

13 Sir Paul Scoon, Governor-General of Grenada, confirmed he had asked the US for help (see also Nov 15).

The Court of Appeal ruled that parents cannot kidnap their own children if they have not been convicted of kidnapping.

14 Bishop Abdu Muzorewa was arrested in Zimbabwe.

15 Richard Noble captured the world land speed record at 533.6 mph.

16 Two policemen were shot dead near Derrypatrick.

William Golding was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

17 Publication of the White Paper proposing abolition of the GLC and metropolitan boroughs.

18 Nine men including four South Korean cabinet ministers were killed when a bomb exploded in Rangoon.

19 Mr Yitzhak Shamir took office as prime minister of Israel.

20 At the Conservative conference Mr Leon Brittan announced proposals for a minimum 20-year sentence for certain killers.

21 The IRA admitted killing a man "by mistake".

Mr Kakuei Tanaka, a former prime minister of Japan, was sentenced to four years in prison and fined more than \$1.4m for his role in the Lockheed bribery scandal.

her's



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WCIX 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PROTEST, NOT SABOTAGE

Two overriding considerations must shape the authorities' handling of the Greenham Common protest. The security of the missiles and the operational function of the base must be guaranteed at all times, including the land deployment of the missiles. And the measures taken to prevent interference must be such as not needlessly to provoke it, and such as to minimize active opposition to the policy of nuclear deterrence into which the cruise missiles at Greenham Common fit. All other considerations are secondary: the expense of policing the affronted feelings of the Newbury bourgeoisie, the whereabouts of the limit of the right to peaceful protest. Important as these other matters are their importance is secondary.

It looks as if the civil authorities are getting themselves into a position to be able to mop up the encampments around the perimeter when they judge the moment to have arrived. Newbury district council has armed itself with new by-laws authorizing the removal of "buildings", including tents and bivouacs, from the common. The Ministry of Transport is blowing the dust off a road widening scheme that would cut the ground from under the feet of the campers at the main gate. If all moved in concert they might deprive the resident protesters of any lawful purchase in the immediate vicinity of the base.

So long as the women of the "peace camp" simply waved the flag of protest there was little justification for forcibly clearing them off. But since the arrival of the missiles the camp has also taken on the character of a base for offensive operations. There have been several mass assaults on the outer fence bringing sections of it down and causing personal injury; and there have

been several raiding parties which have cut through the wire and moved forward towards the heart of the military base, spending several hours before being picked up or giving themselves up. The latest was on Tuesday evening when three women made the air traffic control tower which was unmanned at the time.

The purpose of these raids so far has been to make a point, not sabotage. The women in the control tower, by their own account, had much delicate equipment at their mercy but did nothing worse than scrawl the spine-chilling message "Greenham women are everywhere" before looking for someone to surrender to. The United States peace-keeping force at Greenham is not in the same predicament as their compatriots in Beirut. But the aggressors, in this case women, are making the military authorities look foolish, which is almost as bad as making them look unsafe.

Improving the internal security of the military base is still a higher priority than clearing the women from the common, the immediate effect of which would probably be redundant attempts at interference. The ease with which small parties of intruders can gain entry and wander about inside the base is disturbing, because, even if they remain fairly harmless, it means they are able to approach the area where guns are at the ready, raising the possibility of a politically disastrous misadventure.

Speaking of these matters in a short Commons debate just before the recess, Mr David Mellor, a junior Home Office minister said, "I go so far as to say that if a person has reached the area where that possibility arises [where servicemen would have to consider using firearms], it will be clear that he or she is not in the business of peacefully

demonstrating against cruise missiles." That is a comfortable assumption that the latest capers at Greenham Common appear to contradict. They stir the uneasiness that comes from absence of clarity about the circumstances permitting recourse to firearms.

The missiles are American weapons and it may be presumed that in the last resort American servicemen are responsible for their safety. British servicemen in their lawful use of firearms to protect life or vital installations are subject to the doctrine of minimum force as interpreted by the English courts. Similarly, according to Mr Mellor,

The use of firearms by United States servicemen [stationed in Britain] is governed by rules of engagement designed to ensure that fire is opened only in accordance with the law of the land [this land?], and the doctrine of the minimum force that is necessary and reasonable to protect life and vital installations.

That is good to know. But what of jurisdiction? The value of rules of engagement depends on how they are enforced.

Under the Visiting Forces Act if a visiting serviceman commits an act that is an offence against the law of both countries there is concurrent jurisdiction of United Kingdom courts and courts of the visiting force; if the act is in the course of duty then the authorities of the visiting force have primary jurisdiction and the right of jurisdiction of our courts comes into play only if the visiting military authorities do not exercise theirs. In other words allegations of improper use of firearms in the circumstances envisaged would fall to be dealt with by the American authorities, the jurisprudence of whose military courts is little known to us.

A MULTINATIONAL FORCE FOR ALL THAT

American impatience with Unesco is easy to understand. Unesco wastes money and does a lot of silly things. It puts out a good deal of high-minded drivel. It gets involved in political disputes over matters such as the status of Israel. Too often its members indulge in the luxury of abusing the developed nations that provide most of its funds. It wastes time and money on pernicious ideas like the "new world information and communications order", which is a cover for attempts by undemocratic regimes to control information. It deserves a bit of a shake-up and a fresh look at its aims and programmes. Probably it also deserves a new director-general.

Whether it deserves to lose the United States altogether, as is now threatened by Washington, is more questionable. Its imperfections reflect the imperfections of the world. Its composition reflects the emergence of new nations. When some of these rail against their richer benefactors they are saying something genuine about their own politics whether justified or not. When political disputes intrude they do so because a sufficient number of members think they are important. When woolly dreams prevail they do so because of innate human tendencies to fantasize

about how much better the world might be if it were not as it is. All these things are part of the uncomfortable and unsatisfactory state of international politics today. Tempting though it is to run away from them, especially for a country with strong isolationist traditions like the United States, the better course is to stay in and fight. Unesco is not all bad. About thirty-seven per cent of its budget goes towards educational programmes, thirty per cent to science and eleven per cent to culture. The more objectionable activities take a very small part of the budget. If the United States wants to make a persuasive case for leaving it must explain why it thinks that the main core of practical programmes is not worth supporting. Would someone else take over Unesco's role in teaching Cambodian refugees to read? Would someone else send scientists to hold back the encroaching deserts of northern Kenya? Would someone else have rescued the temple of Abu Simbel? Would someone else take over Unesco's attempts to restore the Buddhist temples of Java and conserve the Valley of Katmandu?

Even if the answer to some of these questions is yes it remains

likely that the destruction or drastic reduction of Unesco's work would leave large gaps in worthwhile fields of endeavour. Does the United States intend to plug these gaps by spending the money it saves on direct bilateral assistance to the same or equivalent projects? If so, it will need to show that the money is better spent that way. If not, it will need to explain why the projects are not worthy of American support. Strong and clear arguments on these points would be more persuasive than wholly justified but not wholly relevant complaints about minor programmes and the idiocies that go on around the periphery and at meetings.

Great powers tend to lose dignity when they appear too thin-skinned or too upset when a joint enterprise does not go entirely their way. The best hope now is that the prospect of American withdrawal will shake Unesco into a re-examination of its shortcomings and thence to reforms which enable the Americans to re-consider. This is not an impossible task, especially if the United States wants to make a persuasive case for leaving it must explain why it thinks that the main core of practical programmes is not worth supporting.

Would someone else take over Unesco's attempts to restore the Buddhist temples of Java and conserve the Valley of Katmandu?

Even if the answer to some of these questions is yes it remains

GETTING CLOSER TO THE PAST

"For a change, we had quite a big issue to decide at the Legislation Committee. Ages ago... Harold Wilson had persuaded the Cabinet to accept in principle the reduction of the fifty-year limitation on the publication of state documents, to thirty years. Whitehall didn't like this, and had resorted to the usual delaying tactics. There was no doubt about it, the Foreign Office had launched a counter-attack."

Richard Crossman's Diary drove a coach and horses through the thirty-year rule. As a result, we are left into the secret discussion behind this exemplary reform enacted by the second Wilson administration. His entry for April 25, 1967, depicts the unease felt by the guardians of official secrecy at the prospect of the public and the press getting hold of thirty-year-old stories missed, as so many were, by the political journalists of the day.

Whitehall's reservations found an eloquent spokesman when the Public Records Bill passed through the House of Lords in May, 1967. Lord Bridges, former Head of the Civil Service, said he doubted if a thirty-year rule would "give public servants the degree of confidence which they ought to have so that they can put out the facts absolutely fearlessly without any thought of their being disclosed prematurely". Bridges thought a forty-year rule "would be absolutely safe".

Despite his plea for four decades of confidentiality, the campaign by Britain's contemporary historians for a twenty-year mitigation of the fifty-year rule established by the Public Records Act 1958, was crowned with success. This time, roles were reversed. Sir Douglas Wass, Lord Bridges's successor but five as head of the Treasury, has opened the campaign to trim the thirty-year rule while the contemporary historians have sat in silent contention at their table in the Public Record Office, actually turning the pages of the Atlee administration.

Indeed, a fissure is instantly detectable between their views and those of Sir Douglas. Some scholars maintain that the thirty-year rule has already sullied the purity of the archive. Contemporary civil servants - having seen the discomfiture of Foreign Office men, involved as young officials in forcibly repatriating Russians in 1945-46, as a series of chilling minutes have been unwrapped - are more cautious in what they now commit to paper. When the 1940's files were created there was not even a fifty-year rule. Some historians conclude that if you want the truth to emerge one day the price to be paid is a fairly hefty period of secrecy.

Sir Douglas Wass has very different motives for what he

implies, though does not state, would be a ten-year rule (except for sensitive foreign, defence and intelligence material). They rest on a wider public interest not on the narrow, scholarly premise of the historian. The fifth of his Reith lectures, though it stressed the desirability of enabling the scholar to undertake documentary research while those who made the policy were still in a condition to be interviewed, was all about informing the citizen about what is done in his name by government. Sir Douglas mentioned the Bridges caveat, only to dismiss it. It did not justify a retention period of thirty years.

Public interest in this instance does outweigh scholarly preference. Even at the easily exaggerated cost of diluting the archive - officials under pressure do not constantly have the recent past in a clearer focus for those who would make sense of the present. For example, if the Wass rule prevailed and not that established by the Public Records Act 1967, next week the newspapers would be carrying at least some of the inside story of Mr Heath's 1973 winter crisis, a period already distorted by myth-makers of one kind or another in Mrs Thatcher's Tory Party.

The reference in Mr Hamilton's letter yesterday should have been to Paddington Green police station, not Kensington police station.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A royal guide to path of peace

From Mr Richard S. Rowntree

Sir: There is always the danger of the impact of Christmas Day messages being lost because of assumptions that they are more to do with pious hopes than the actual realities of the world in which we live. This has never been true of the Queen's annual broadcasts and this year she has directed the country's attention to the most urgent problems facing us.

In stressing the need for genuine communication between the peoples of the world in seeking solutions to the uneven North/South distribution of our planet's resources and the requirement for less nationalism and more interdependence her Majesty has outlined the objectives of a peace movement to which all responsible people should commit themselves wholeheartedly.

Nineteen eighty-three has been a year in which the increasing realisation of mankind's potential for self-destruction has caused divisions between those who share the common goal of peace. Yet the unilateral/multilateral argument, deeply and urgently felt as it is by both sides, is not at the heart of the matter.

May 1984 is made the year in which all work for those vital priorities for peace for which the Queen has called.

Yours sincerely,
RICHARD S. ROWNTREE,
King's Norton,
Pickering,
North Yorkshire.
December 26.

Sellafield thoughts

From Dr John Twidell

Sir: Obviously 1984 has arrived. In reporting to Parliament about the radioactive emissions from the Sellafield reprocessing plant, Mr Patrick Jenkin stated in consecutive sentences:

a. "The radioactivity in the samples was well below the level that would constitute any hazard to the general population in its area"; and
b. "The main concern is that anyone handling the more active samples from the base could exceed the annual dose limit for the skin after only comparatively brief direct contact."

The statements are a clear case of 2+2=5. The public is being treated as innumerate (what is "comparatively brief") and irrational ("below the level") yet "exceeds the limit".

Should we now expect notices on the Sellafield beach to read: "This beach is safe to the public when the public does not care?"

Yours sincerely:
JOHN TWIDELL,
University of Strathclyde,
Department of Applied Physics,
John Anderson Building,
107 Renfrew Street,
Glasgow.
December 23.

Judicial appointments

From Professor John Griffith

Sir: Despite my calling I do not wish to argue with Mr Scriven when he suggests (ature, December 20) that judges should not be appointed from those who read law at a university. He says they need "imaginative understanding, literary competence and common sense" and who shall say he is wrong?

On December 7, 1983, the Lord Chancellor dismissed an Old Bailey judge who had been convicted on two charges of smuggling. This seems to me to raise questions closely related to and perhaps, even more important than those concerned with the training of judges.

How are judges appointed? How are their qualities assessed? How do we assure ourselves that mistakes are not made? How is the public to be protected?

We know that the Lord Chancellor appoints most of them and that the Prime Minister appoints the most senior. But the procedures are not known and, given the firm belief of most people in the independence of the judiciary, is it desirable that appointments should be in the hands of politicians, especially perhaps those key appointments of the Master of the Rolls and the Lord Chief Justice?

Other countries have other methods which seem to avoid the involvement of politicians. Might there not be a cause for inquiry? Yours truly,
J. A. G. GRIFFITH,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Houghton Street, WC2.
December 23.

Non-nuclear options

From Mr Walter Stein

Sir: Your Leader of December 5 asserts that some lip service is paid (by CND) to the need to study alternatives to nuclear defence, but the disciplines involved in a posture of armed neutrality are based on the fundamental premise that peace has to be fought for and always defended. Those premises are totally alien to the unilateralist doctrine.

This assertion is totally groundless. It also rests upon an ill-informed public image of "the unilateralist doctrine" for which *The Times* itself bears an important share of responsibility.

The leader's assertion is groundless since unilateral nuclear disarmament is wholly distinct from positions denying the premise that "peace has to be fought for and always defended" or which favour total military disarmament.

Unilateral nuclear disarmament can be based on strategic judgments that nuclear deterrence, especially in its present forms, is a recklessly irrational means of defence; or on the moral judgment that "the megaton nuclear bomb is the nearest

Promising way to stability in Ireland

From Lady Ewart-Biggs

Sir: Dr Garret Fitzgerald, writing in your columns (December 23), has asked the British Government to join "with constitutional politicians in Ireland in a single urgent effort to create structures which will bring peace and real political progress".

I believe people on both sides of the Irish Sea could welcome such a commitment. For, recognising it as a practical measure to help out two democracies in their fight against the growing common threat, they might now eschew the old fear that any Anglo-Irish rapprochement can only as a prelude to British withdrawal from Northern Ireland and the reunification of the island.

The Dublin Government, with great courage, have taken a serious initiative in setting up the Northern Ireland Forum, the objective being to re-examine and reassess some of Ireland's own entrenched positions and thereby try to determine a new path forward towards peace and stability. But any proposals emanating from this forum can be rendered effective and channelled to the common good only if met with a positive response from British political leaders.

Let us hope, for all our sakes, that such a response will be possible and forthcoming. For the increasing pressures and strains under which the British administration in Northern Ireland is struggling can only be relieved by an unequivocal statement of resolve and mutual trust between the two governments. And I feel sure that a vast majority of the British and Irish people, sickened by the carnage and not wishing to see so many of their loved ones die in vain, could both accept and welcome the Irish Prime Minister's proposition as the only way forward.

Yours faithfully,

JANE EWART-BIGGS,
House of Lords.
December 23.

Jobs in Gibraltar

From the Leader of the Gibraltar Opposition

Sir: Your editorial of December 13 does not mention that not only the TGWU but also the main Opposition party, the Gibraltar Chamber of Commerce and many other people in Gibraltar oppose commercialisation of the naval dockyard as a viable economic alternative to what the British Government pledged to provide Gibraltar with in the Defence White Paper of 1981.

The reports of the consultants engaged both by the Ministry of Overseas Development and by the Gibraltar Government if made public, would confirm what your editorial affirms that "the hard fact is that there is no viable alternative". These reports have been made available to the Opposition but only on a strictly confidential basis and I cannot therefore expand on this aspect.

Your editorial makes comparisons between Gibraltar and Chatham. Surely only if Chatham was economically blocked by a foreign hostile state to make its inhabitants surrender British sovereignty would such a comparison be

valid. The operation of the naval dockyard in Gibraltar is acknowledged to be the base of the Gibraltar economy.

It is very possible and indeed probable that the economy of Gibraltar could be diversified in a situation where we have a normal frontier between Gibraltar and Spain and friendly relations exist, as was the case before the blockade when Gibraltar was economically self-sufficient.

By closing the naval dockyard before the Gibraltar economy can be diversified an additional burden has been placed on our besieged economy which unfortunately a commercial ship-repair operation will do little to relieve.

Please do not misunderstand opposition to the agreement reached between the Gibraltar and British governments as ingratitude but rather as deep concern that a commercial operation of the naval dockyard cannot possibly replace that dockyard as the base of our economy.

Yours faithfully,
PETER J. ISOLA,
Leader of the Opposition,
House of Assembly, Gibraltar.
December 16.

interpreters (these being between 15 and 30 times higher).

Small wonder that "court interpreters" produced such a stream of printable copy for the newspapers. But, on the other hand, what a disgrace in this age of advanced European interpretation!

Until the Italian judiciary recognises interpreting as a professional skill and agrees to pay the going professional rate, we can expect to see such cases continue to enrich the local folklore while making a laughing stock of justice.

Yours faithfully,
A. F. DALY, President,
International Association of Conference Interpreters,
As 18 Circus Street, SE10.

list movement. A month or two before the election, after more than two years of research, the Alternative Defence Commission published a report *Defence without the Bomb*, exploring the implications for British and European defence policy of a nuclear unilateralism which stresses "that peace has to be fought for and always defended".

Most of the responses to this report evoked acknowledgement of its serious relevance to present defence dilemmas. It seems doubly unfortunate that *The Times*, which chose to ignore its publication, now chooses to assert that "the unilateralist doctrine" can only pay lip service to such concerns.

It is not merely a question of fair understanding. At a time when the peace movement on the one hand and ever increasing numbers of Nato authorities on the other are coming to share a common perception that radical transformations in the business of defence must now be taken in hand if the business of human life is to continue, this measure of common ground should surely be cherished and nourished.

Yours faithfully,
WALTER STEIN,
148 Curly Hill,
Middleton,
Ilkley,
West Yorkshire.

list movement. A month or two before the election, after more than two years of research, the Alternative Defence Commission published a report *Defence*

COURT AND SOCIAL NEWS

The Prince and the Princess of Wales are to visit Italy from October 14 to 29 next year at the invitation of the Italian Government.

Birthdays today

Mr David Bedford, 34; Mr Anthony Corriss, QC, 70; General Sir David French, 63; Sir Reginald Groom, 77; Lord Goring, 80; Lord Hailsham, 80; General Sir Alexander J. T. Houghton, 52; Air Chief Marshal Sir Edmund Hudleston, 75; Professor Rosalind Hurley, 54; Mr John F. Mitchell, 97; Sir John Prudeau, 72; Sir Albert Robinson, 68; Lord Taylor, 73; Lord Terrington, 68; Sir Eric Weiss, 75; Sir David Wilcock, 64; Mr Clifford Williams, 57.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr John Rimmerman to be Director General of the Health and Safety Executive for five years from January 1. He succeeds Mr John Locke.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. J. Hay and Mrs C. M. Proby. The engagement is announced between Stephen, Son of Major John Hay and Mrs Sally Hay, of Cheltenham, and Charlotte, daughter of Sir Peter Proby, Bt, and Lady Proby, of Elton, Peterborough.

Mr S. Barnes and Miss J. Dardine. The engagement is announced between Hugh, son of Mr and Mrs F. E. Barnes, of Birthistle, Merseyside, and Isabelle, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. P. Dardine, of Vascoeur, France.

Mr J. P. W. Davies and Miss A. P. Pearson. The engagement is announced between Jack, elder son of Mr and Mrs Michael Davies, of Long Ashton, Bristol, and Francesca, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Pearson, of Perth Western Australia.

Mr J. H. Greenbury and Miss J. M. Walters-Rees. The engagement is announced between Jonathan Harri Greenbury, of Barnes, London, and Julia Margaret Walters-Rees, of Lisvane, Cardiff.

Mr D. A. C. Luck and Miss L. C. Needham. The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Group Captain and Mrs David Luck, of Lympnewood, Prinsted, near Emsworth, Hampshire, and Lisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Tony Needham, of Haslemere.

Mr J. G. Moller and Miss B. K. Southward. The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr W. G. Moller, of Lyngby, Denmark, and Mrs A. H. Moller, of Old Beams, West Sussex, and Barbara, daughter of Mr and Mrs T. C. Southward, of Bournemouth.

Mr P. S. Nelson and Miss K. E. Miller. The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mr and Mrs H. A. Nelson, of Bramhall, Cheshire, and Karen, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Moller, of Copenhagen.



Studies in concentration: Contestants in the London Junior Chess Championships at the Sir William Collins School, Somers Town, pondering their next move. From left, Dennis Hassapis, aged 7, of Finchley, Andrew Butler, aged 11, of Sydenham, and Cathy Haslinger, aged 9, of Hayes, all London. (Photographs: John Voo).

Gatwick expansion opposed

Destruction of villages feared

By Michael Ball, Transport Editor

Conservationists in the Surrey stockbroker belt fear that privatization of the British Airports Authority could lead to massive expansion at Gatwick and the virtual destruction of dozens of attractive Surrey and West Sussex villages.

They are pressing the Government for assurances that a second runway will not be built at Gatwick after privatization, doubling its potential traffic to around 30 million a year, the same as Heathrow. Mr Neil Mathewson, chairman of the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign, said: "The BAA entered into a formal agreement with the West Sussex County Council not to build a second runway and it was against that background that permission was given for a second terminal, raising capacity from 16 million to 25 million passengers a year by the late 80s."

We are not political and therefore have no views as to privatization at such. But we are concerned that this agreement might not be firmly binding on a new owner, or that the Government might relax restrictions in privatizing the airport," he said.

The opening of Gatwick's second terminal in 1987 will already produce a big rise in traffic, but the people could cope with that given good neighbour policies by the airport authority, Mr Mathewson said.

A further rise to 50 million, which would be perfectly possible with a second runway, would "totally engulf us", he said.

One village, Charlwood, would probably be eliminated; there would be busy flight paths over the sizeable town of Horley, and "whole new swathes of people" would suffer from noise nuisance who did not have it now.

The BAA discounted the fears. "We agreed with the local

authorities in 1979 not to build a second runway at Gatwick for 40 years; and the BAA is hoping it will retain its present form after privatization.

"The real point though is that there is no room for a second runway at Gatwick anyway. The only place it would have been possible is where the second terminal is being built and we took the decision that we would rather have a second terminal than a second runway."

That view is not supported by British Caledonian, Gatwick's leading airline user. Sir Peter Masefield, B-Cal's deputy chairman, has long advocated that a second runway at Gatwick could and should be built.

A B-Cal spokesman said: "For the time being we are satisfied with the BAA's plans to convert the existing taxiway into an emergency runway, although we are disappointed it has not yet happened."

The Department of Transport, which is believed to be planning privatization of the BAA in 1985, said: "There are no plans for a second runway at Harlow, Essex, and £5m has been spent on the campaign, none

anywhere else in Europe."

In the Save-a-Can scheme 30 skips have been put on sites, 10 above the 1984 target, but no information is available on recovery rates, and a pilot plant for the recovery of tipiate cans from domestic refuse has been

closed.

The recycling figures are reported in this month's issue of ENDS, the journal of Environmental Data Services.

Bottle bank scheme faltering

By Tony Samstag

Britain's recycling scheme for glass and metal, started in 1980, is faltering badly. The Glass Manufacturers Federation says it is "incredibly frustrated" by lack of government and local authority support for its bottle banks, and manufacturers' car reports little more progress.

The federation set a target of 350,000 tonnes a year, a recycling rate equivalent to 17 per cent of total British glass consumption, by 1984. The rate achieved this year is less than half that target, and has declined in recent months.

The annual glass recycling rate is now about 112,500 tonnes, only slightly higher than it was last year.

Britain has about bottle banks, compared with 28,000 in West Germany, and its recycling rate in 1982 was the worst in the EEC, even though a recycling plant was built at Harlow, Essex, and £5m was

spent on the campaign, none

anywhere else in Europe.

In the Save-a-Can scheme 30 skips have been put on sites, 10 above the 1984 target, but no information is available on recovery rates, and a pilot plant for the recovery of tipiate cans from domestic refuse has been

closed.

The recycling figures are reported in this month's issue of ENDS, the journal of Environmental Data Services.

Church news

The Rev C. E. Lovell, Vicar of St. Mary's Church, Luton, has been appointed Canon Residentiary of All Saints' Church, London, to also be Area Dean of Clergy and Canon Chancellor of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Mary's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, has been appointed Curate of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, officiating at the church since the Rev C. W. Lovell, Vicar of St. Stephen's Church, Tadworth, died in November.

The Rev C. W. Lovell, Vic

THE ARTS

Cinema: David Robinson presents his personal honours list for 1983, and offers a little New Year diversion

Who could displace the old masters?

Best Picture of 1983: Without question, Ingmar Bergman's opulent period recreation *Fanny and Alexander*, in the full (and not a second too long) 340-minute version. With Robert Bresson's austere and uncompromising *L'Argent* as runner-up. Even if the competition had been stiffer than it was in a generally lean year, it is unlikely that anyone could have displaced these two old masters.

Best Director: Bill Forsyth, for *Local Hero* and the authority, originality and charm of his comic vision.

Best Actor: Robert De Niro in Martin Scorsese's undervalued *King of Comedy*.

Best Actress: Meryl Streep in *Sophie's Choice*.

Special Prize for Progress and Promises to Britain: "Renaissance" is a big word; but there were enough swallows to portend a fair summer, among them Michael Darlow's *Accounts*, Richard Eyre's *The Ploughman's Lunch*, Michael Radford's *Another Time, Another Place*, Desmond Davies' *The Country Girl* and John Schlesinger's *An Englishman Abroad*.

Most Original Comedy: Woody Allen's *Zelig*.

Most Outrageous Musical: Sylvester Stallone's *Staying Alive*.

Most Promising Newcomers: Peter Reijert (*Local Hero*), Julie Walters (*Educating Rita*), Greta Schacchi (*Heads and Dust*), Jennifer Beals (*Flashdance*).

Star of the Year (any year): Lillian Gish, who proved them at the Dominion, off-screen and on, at the re-presentations of her classic performances in *Broken Blossoms* and *The Wind*.

Birthday Girl of the Year: Estelle Winwood, 101 in January and still at work.

Best Film Festival: Tyneside, because it has a mind of its own.

Best Film Book: Virgin Books' *Film Year Book Volume Two* (£5.95) which combines film, intelligence, affection and erudition.

Vogue of the Year: Restoring mutilated films, in the wake of *Napoleon*. It is all right so long as they stick to *A Star is Born* and even *Heaven's Gate*; but just suppose they start finding gaudy bits of *The Stud* or *Raise the Titanic*...

Mistake of the Year: Remaking *Breathless*.

Turkeys of the Year: *The Hunger*.



Problem pictures: A (left), B, C

Monty Python's The Meaning of Life.

Worst Title: *I Dismember Mama*.

Valerie: The year's obituaries included among directors the incomparable Luis Buñuel, George Cukor, Robert Aldrich and the Japanese enfant terrible Shūji Terayama; the stars Gloria Swanson, Dolores Del Rio, Ralph Richardson, Norma Shearer, Carolyn Jones, Raymond Massey, Pat O'Brien and the original Flash Gordon, Buster Crabbe; a screen editor, William Hornbeck; and Otto Messmer, the creator, more than sixty years ago, of Felix the Cat.

To start the New Year, with no new commercial films on release, the National Film Theatre's survey of the work of Edmund Goulding has much to recommend it. Goulding is a fascinating figure in film history, though this appears to be the first

time he has been recognized as an auteur with a personal retrospective tribute.

He was a Londoner, born in 1891. A brief career in the London theatre was cut short by the First World War, after which he decided to try his luck in America. On Broadway he enjoyed rapid success as a playwright, with *Dancing Mothers* and *Dodd Macd*, and in 1921 arrived in Hollywood as a writer. His career there was to last through four decades, from 1921, when he scripted Henry King's classic *Tol'able David*, to 1958 when he directed his last film, *Mardi Gras*.

Goulding's great strengths as a director were a highly literate understanding of the text and great skill with actors but particularly actresses. His leading ladies, all of whom seemed to excel under his direction, included Greta Garbo, Norma Shearer, Bette Davis, Joan

Crawford, Mary Astor, Constance Bennett, Jean Blondell, Ginger Rogers and Marilyn Monroe. A large part of his prolific Thirties output was melodrama, of the type in which fatal, lingering but never indecent illnesses figure frequently. Goulding nevertheless often brought distinction to subjects like *The Flame Within*, *Dark Victory* and *The Old Maid*, in which Bette Davis plays one of her best pre-war roles.

In preference to the familiar heavyweights like *Grand Hotel* and the Oscar-winning *The Razor's Edge*, it is worth seeking out rarer treasures among the Goulding films, like the silent *Love*, with Garbo in the best of all adaptations of *Anne Karenina*, or *Blonde of the Follies*, with Marion Davies, whose gifts as a comedienne were too often obscured by her celebrity as Randolph Hearst's faithful mistress.

Goulding was a man of many and surprising parts. As a song-writer he was responsible for "Love Your Magic Spell Is Everywhere" as well as the title-song of his own 1936 *Teenage Rebel*.

To pass a few minutes of the New Year weekend, here is a short movie quiz with questions ranging from simple to tricky:

1: In 1952 Marion Morrison and Maureen Fitzsimmons starred in a film made in Ireland by Sean Aloysius O'Reilly. What was its title?

2 (picture A): Whose hand holds the camera? In what film? But whose are the legs reflected in the lens?

3: What film was advertised as "The Tragedy of a Man Who Couldn't Make Up His Mind"?

4: What do these gentlemen have in common: Spencer Tracy, Fritz

Kortner, Cary Grant, Gary Cooper, David Bowie, John Wayne, Robert Donat?

5: Which film (a) provided the national song of America's New Deal era? (b) allegedly ruined the trade in men's underpants?

6: In what films were these musical numbers performed: "Today I Feel So Happy", "Beyond the Blue Horizon", "Isn't It Romantic"; "There's No Business Like Show Business", "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas", "Dancing Queen to Check"?

7: What do these ladies have in common: Rita Hayworth, Vivianne Romance, Edna Purviance, Raquel Meller, Geraldine Farar, Theda Bara, Pola Negri?

8 (pictures B and C): Find the lady. Who are these two players, seen in uncharacteristic costumes?

/Answers with next week's film review.

Television Eloquent evocation

The second part of *Land of the Lakes* (Channel 4) – otherwise known as the *Land of the Orange Rucksacks* – concentrated upon the village of Troutbeck; this is Melvyn Bragg's labour of love, a pleasant evocation of the Cumbrian landscape, not the least significant aspect of which is the visible sense in which it remains in contact with the recognizable and even the remote past. The Brigantes have vanished, of course, but the contemporary inhabitants still observe "immemorial" customs and might be rather dangerous. They were not altogether admiring of the "holiday homes" which spring up by the Lakes, for example, and no doubt we can expect to see these weekend Cumbrians sacrificed in front of Wordsworth's cottage; it was an interesting programme, principally because the natives still spoke engagingly and eloquently about their own past.

This was also the informing principle of *Pattern of Roses* (Channel 4): a teenager convalescing in the country becomes possessed by images from the early part of the century. This kind of story exerts its own power, and it was tolerably well acted – although sometimes "atmospheric" music tended to drown the performances. There were some nice touches, however – a modern clergyman who wanted his daughter to become a probation officer, and the visionary teenager himself who seemed destined for a career in

Peter Ackroyd

Dance

Cinderella Covent Garden

The Sleeping Beauty Channel 4

David Wall seems to have solved the problem of how to make the Prince in *Cinderella* look something more than a lay figure dancing attendance on the heroine. What he does is to treat every moment as if he really had a role to play: bending forward eagerly, for instance, to catch the least word from the beautiful stranger's lips. As this is a ballet, she does

not actually utter any words, but the point is made.

Wall also dances more dashingly than he has done in any other ballet this season, so his part came to life at Tuesday's performance. Unfortunately, although Jennifer Penney looks plausibly enough a fairy-tale princess, some of the sparkle has gone out of her dancing, probably because her performances are so few and far between nowadays. David Peden, the latest in a series of new Jesters (how that court gets through its servants!), will make more effect if he brings to his main scenes some of the liveliness he showed when half hidden at the back.

Since one has to comment from time to time that some of the Royal Ballet's productions are less well directed and danced than in the past, it is only fair to say that the Kirov Ballet has a similar problem with its *Sleeping Beauty*, judging by Monday's broadcast on Channel 4.

On the other hand, the blame for announcing the whole ballet and then showing only part of it must fall squarely on Channel 4 itself. The specious introduction about a "specially edited version" was simply an attempt to wriggle out of the fact that the programmers had bungled and allowed insufficient time. They would not dare that with a play or opera; why should they get away with it for ballet?

Consequently, part of the story and many of the best dances were not shown. In what remained, the veteran ballerina Irina Kolpakova showed that she is still at 50, a better and younger-looking Aurora than most, even if some of us remember her better still in the past. Sergei Bezsmotnov makes a dresorable but lightweight Prince Desire.

For the real Kirov style, the trio of Jewel Fairies at the wedding (Olga Isakandrova, Natalia Spitsina and Natalia Apodyakos) came off best among the supporting cast; no doubt Leningrad, like London, has its young hopefuls to look forward to.

John Percival

BEST DIRECTOR 1983 CRITICS' CIRCLE AWARD

ANTHONY WAJDA'S

DANTON

"Magnificent..." TIME

Progs 3.30 5.05 8.45

ENDS WED JAN 4

CAMDEN PLAZA

453 2142 10.30PM - 11.30PM

FROM 29 DEC-10 JAN

RITZY CINEMA

BRIXTON 7337 2121

CATE

CINEMA 10TH FLOOR 227 777 777 777

THE CATE

A STAR IS BORN.

STORY AND SCREENPLAY BY ROBERT M. STONE
DIRECTED BY DAVID R. COOPER

CATE BLOOMSBURY

8.37 8.42 8.57 11.27

• THE LEOPARD

• ZELIG

• CATE MAYFAIR

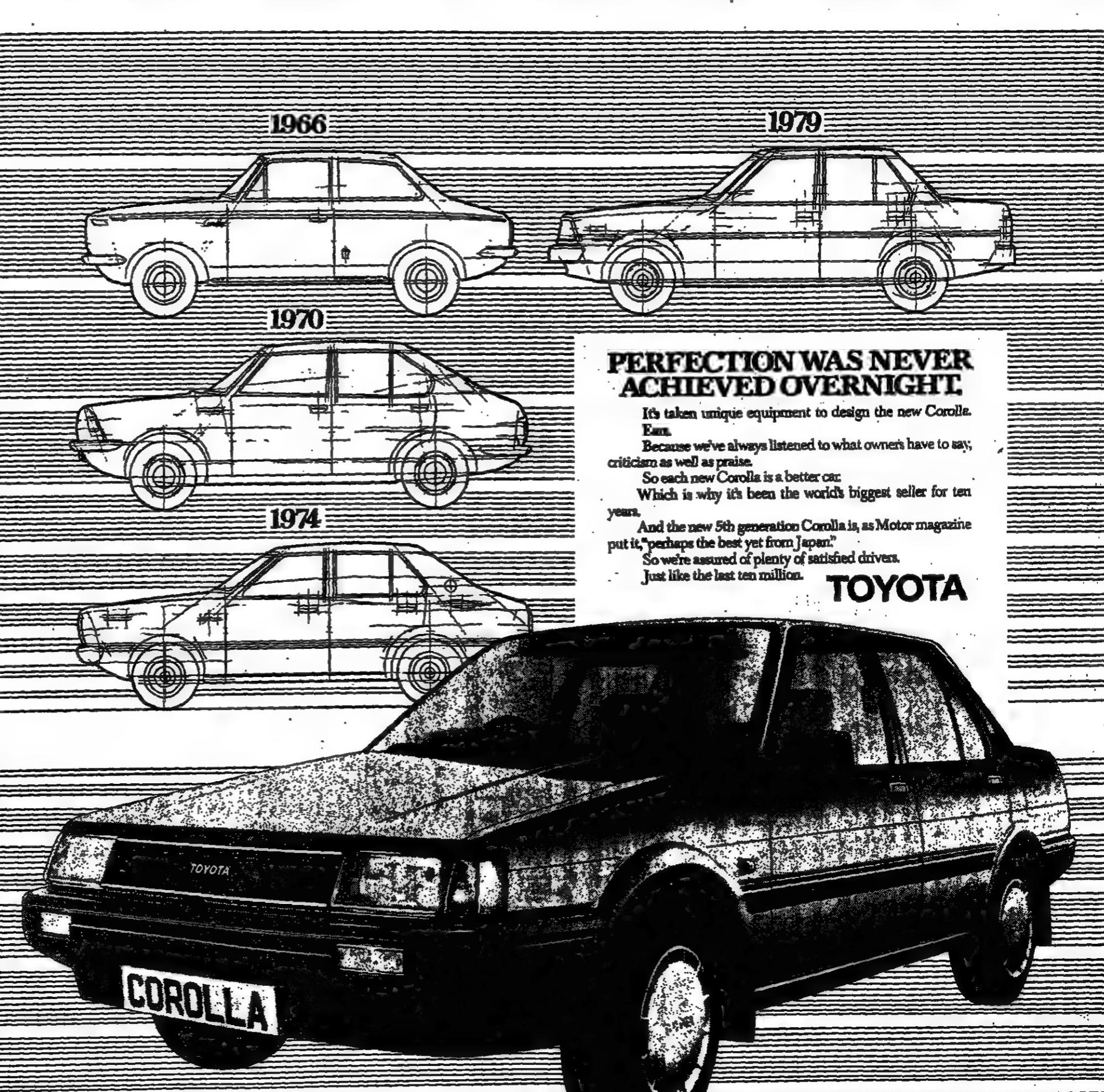
4.52 2031

ZELIG

ALL SHOWS OPEN THROUGHOUT NEW YEAR

ADMISSION £3.50

AGE RESTRICTIONS APPLIED FOR ALL CATEGORIES



**THE NEW COROLLA. THE CAR
THE WORLD MADE PERFECT**

GL SALOON £5133. GL LIFTBACK £5307. DX ESTATE £4991.

PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS AND INCLUDE CAR TAX, VAT AND SEAT BELTS, BUT EXCLUDE ROAD TAX, NUMBER PLATES AND DELIVERY CHARGES.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE SALES ADMINISTRATION DEPT, TOYOTA (G.B.) LTD, THE QUADRANGLE, REDHILL, SURREY RH1 4PK. TEL: REDHILL (0737) 68585.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY
Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Why Lonrho declined to sponsor \$1m Derby

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, as even his bitterest adversaries admit, is a man of extraordinary charm. It is, therefore, all the more regrettable that he so often communicates through lawyers, especially one who abruptly ends a conversation by putting down the telephone. Otherwise, in their written response to my column of December 23 ("Fraser expects Lonrho to attempt the obvious"), Mr Rowland and a firm of solicitors called Cameron Markby could not have been more helpful.

In the first place our clients' (Lonrho) position in regard to Mr John Griffiths' report is that they are content to await the outcome of his enquiries". This will be welcome news for the majority of House of Fraser directors who feared that Lonrho, the enemy without the gates, might seek an extraordinary meeting to oust Professor Roland Smith, the chairman, and two other directors, Mr Ernest Sharp and Mr George Willoughby, before Mr Griffiths reports to the Department of Trade and Industry the results of his investigation into the House of Fraser share register. It also confirms my view that Mr Rowland would not act in this way.

Mr Rowland, through his solicitors, has also been good enough to clear up another matter of huge concern to the racing public, namely Lonrho's willingness to sponsor the Epsom Derby. I wrote here last week that Lonrho's offer to sponsor the greatest race in the Flat racing calendar for £500,000 had been refused "because of a certain condition" Mr Rowland had laid down.

The condition "to which", according to Cameron Markby, "you refer was that Lonrho's sponsorship should be unanimously accepted by United Racecourses Limited (who were in fact responsible, not the Jockey Club). In the event decision on sponsorship was deferred until 1985, apparently for lack of time within which to consider the matter fully. But there was no suggestion of any objection to our clients as potential sponsors; and they have recently received a letter inviting them to consider sponsorship in 1985... They declined the invitation".

A copy of the letter, dated December 6, from Mr Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman of United Racecourses, was sent to me. Addressed to Lord Duncan-Sandys, it asks whether Lonrho "would be interested in entering discussions with United Racecourses Limited with a view to sponsorship of the Derby Stakes at Epsom in 1985, 86 and 87, and possibly for a further two years. We are looking for a contribution equivalent to \$1m for each year".

The UR board's aim is "to establish a shortlist of companies who may be interested in this uniquely prestigious marketing opportunity, and then to negotiate a detailed contract to fulfil mutual objectives".

That, I trust, goes a long way to clearing up the Derby point. There remains the vital matter of the public's response to "Seasons Greetings from Lonrho" in the windows of the old Bunny Club in Park Lane, premises now owned by Lonrho. I reported that the sign had caused "a certain furore". Lonrho's solicitors say the company has been congratulated, in writing and otherwise, on the way in

which the sign had brightened up the premises."

I am pleased to hear it: what offends some people usually delights others. But it is bad news about the Derby. Competition among would-be sponsors is generally a good thing.

Travel guide to an investor's paradise

In London shares have surged impressively to new peaks, yet the sophisticated and alert investor could have had an even more lucrative run in some of the world's smaller stock markets. That at least is a theory supported by the latest statistical exercise by stockbrokers Wood, Mackenzie. Their international market survey shows that, up to December 23 certainly, Mexico, famed for oil, tequila and sovereign debt, was the place to be. After last year's traumatic experience, when Mexico teetered on the verge of bankruptcy and both peso and stock market collapsed, resurgence has been dramatic. The fledgling Mexican stock market outperformed the rest with a staggering rise of 285.74 per cent.

Two other small markets - Norway (135.82 per cent) and Denmark (107.25 per cent) - also achieved three figure rises; other tiddlers to perform in style include Sweden, Ireland, Singapore and the Netherlands. In most of them a few stocks, excited by the increasing international awareness of US investors, account for much of the upswing. Australia, under a new Labour Government, also did well.

Overall the 21 stock markets in the Wood, Mackenzie survey advanced 36.88 per cent. Our own market, despite its undoubted strength, gained only 28.58 per cent. Wall Street, the most important stock market in anybody's language - accounting for no less than 36.4 per cent of the world index - scored 36.67 per cent.

The next biggest market, Japan, is 16.7 per cent of the index. It advanced 37.88 per cent. Britain (7.4 per cent) is the third largest; followed by Canada (4.5 per cent) and Germany (3.1 per cent). To put the rest into perspective, Norway accounts for a mere 0.2 per cent.

The sophisticated investor, Wood, Mackenzie calculates would have been highly active in the US in the first half of the year and then switched his attention to Japan which enjoyed a late run. The rampant US dollar could however have created a few minor problems. In dollar terms Hongkong suffered a 2.1 per cent setback; in sterling sums it was up 10.5 per cent. Italy and Austria also fell in dollar terms.

In 1982, helped by a surge of buying late in the year, world markets recorded a gain of 31.7 per cent. In 1981 they were in retreat. What of 1984? The Wood, Mackenzie team is prepared to stick out its collective neck, suggesting a gain between 5 per cent and 10 per cent. Japan, of the five leaders, will be the best performer, helped by favourable currency movements. Britain will be positive, Germany little changed and the US and Canada possibly lower. The brokers think that the more exciting action will occur in the first half of the year. Sell in May... and go away.

He resigned on a matter of principle in 1975 but was able to return in triumph at the beginning of this year when he added Skerritt to his burgeoning business empire. Further companies will be added to the group soon, Mr Puri said.

But Mr Puri said: "It is basically a good business and I think we can do a lot better with it than Acrow did. We will certainly not be making losses."

The current senior management at Adamson and Hatchett, headed by the managing director, Mr Stanley Wilce, will be cut in with a financial participation in the future of the business.

Mr Puri, aged 44, came to Britain from India 17 years ago and has spent most of his time working for S. G. Skerritt, a Midlands firm of building contractors.

He resigned on a matter of principle in 1975 but was able to return in triumph at the beginning of this year when he added Skerritt to his burgeoning business empire. Further companies will be added to the group soon, Mr Puri said.

The book loss Acrow is taking by selling off Adamson was taken into account in recent half-year figures which showed losses of nearly £4m. Acrow intends to dispatch a circular to shareholders on the sale

Directors' loyalty strained

By Our Financial Staff

The Government was urged yesterday by one of its most ardent supporters, the Institute of Directors, to keep its election promises over taxation and public spending.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the institute, said in a New Year message in *The Director* magazine: "Our loyalty is becoming strained. Industry has kept its side of the bargain during the difficult years of 1980-83. It is time the Government did the same."

Mr Goldsmith, whose organization has backed Mrs Thatcher more than the Confederation of British Industry and has not questioned the Government's view that the recovery from recession might falter, added: "Only six months

ago, in a speech to the CBI, she said that higher national insurance is taken into account, taxation has actually increased."

He claimed that, when higher national insurance is taken into account, taxation has actually increased.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal of plans for the country's economic development", according to the President when he presented the National Assembly with what he called a "re-dedication budget".

The austerity measures will clearly have to have a much swifter impact than has been achieved by other measures this year - principally aimed at cutting imports - if Nigeria is to meet the conditions of the International Monetary Fund for a three-year \$2 billion loan.

Nigerians have got used to good living and have resorted to massive smuggling to avoid import bans on 230 items.

This year, British exports will be half that level, with a further contraction inevitable in 1984. It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The impact of these measures on British suppliers, which have traditionally held almost a fifth of the import market, will be considerable. Nigeria was a booming market for Britain in 1981, before the oil slump, with sales worth £1.5 billion.

This year, British exports will

be half that level, with a further contraction inevitable in 1984.

It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal of plans for the country's economic development", according to the President when he presented the National Assembly with what he called a "re-dedication budget".

The austerity measures will

clearly have to have a much

swifter impact than has been

achieved by other measures this

year - principally aimed at

cutting imports - if Nigeria is to

meet the conditions of the

International Monetary Fund for a three-year \$2 billion loan.

Nigerians have got used to

good living and have resorted to

massive smuggling to avoid

import bans on 230 items.

This year, British exports will

be half that level, with a further

contraction inevitable in 1984.

It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal of plans for the country's economic development", according to the President when he presented the National Assembly with what he called a "re-dedication budget".

The austerity measures will

clearly have to have a much

swifter impact than has been

achieved by other measures this

year - principally aimed at

cutting imports - if Nigeria is to

meet the conditions of the

International Monetary Fund for a three-year \$2 billion loan.

Nigerians have got used to

good living and have resorted to

massive smuggling to avoid

import bans on 230 items.

This year, British exports will

be half that level, with a further

contraction inevitable in 1984.

It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal of plans for the country's economic development", according to the President when he presented the National Assembly with what he called a "re-dedication budget".

The austerity measures will

clearly have to have a much

swifter impact than has been

achieved by other measures this

year - principally aimed at

cutting imports - if Nigeria is to

meet the conditions of the

International Monetary Fund for a three-year \$2 billion loan.

Nigerians have got used to

good living and have resorted to

massive smuggling to avoid

import bans on 230 items.

This year, British exports will

be half that level, with a further

contraction inevitable in 1984.

It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal of plans for the country's economic development", according to the President when he presented the National Assembly with what he called a "re-dedication budget".

The austerity measures will

clearly have to have a much

swifter impact than has been

achieved by other measures this

year - principally aimed at

cutting imports - if Nigeria is to

meet the conditions of the

International Monetary Fund for a three-year \$2 billion loan.

Nigerians have got used to

good living and have resorted to

massive smuggling to avoid

import bans on 230 items.

This year, British exports will

be half that level, with a further

contraction inevitable in 1984.

It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal of plans for the country's economic development", according to the President when he presented the National Assembly with what he called a "re-dedication budget".

The austerity measures will

clearly have to have a much

swifter impact than has been

achieved by other measures this

year - principally aimed at

cutting imports - if Nigeria is to

meet the conditions of the

International Monetary Fund for a three-year \$2 billion loan.

Nigerians have got used to

good living and have resorted to

massive smuggling to avoid

import bans on 230 items.

This year, British exports will

be half that level, with a further

contraction inevitable in 1984.

It is expected that the 10 billion

naira import bill will be cut to 7 billion.

The cut in Nigeria's oil production and the fall in crude prices have resulted in a "colossal loss of revenue which has necessitated a thorough appraisal

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	110/4%
Commercial Ctds	9%
Confidential	9%
C. Hoare & Co.	9%
Lloyd's Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

* Minimum base rate.

** Year deposits of under £10,000, over £10,000 up to £20,000.

*** £10,000.

**** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

***** £10,000.

US brushes aside pleas over Unesco

Continued from page 1
work very hard. Others do not, and we know because their chairs are empty."

The Paris staff of about 2,600 is paid well. A departmental director has a tax-free salary of about 30,000 francs (£2,500) a month, as well as such extras as a duty-free allowance of alcohol and petrol, and educational grants for children.

Nor are officials always the best people available. A widespread criticism of Unesco and Mr Mbow, who comes from Senegal, is that a rigid quota system allows less-qualified people from the Third World to be hired and promoted ahead of Westerners.

An American official said: "Unesco is not meant to be a club for Third World people too often hired because of their political pull."

In Moscow, the party daily *Pravda* condemned the American withdrawal, saying Washington had become "infuriated" only because it could not impose its will on the agency.

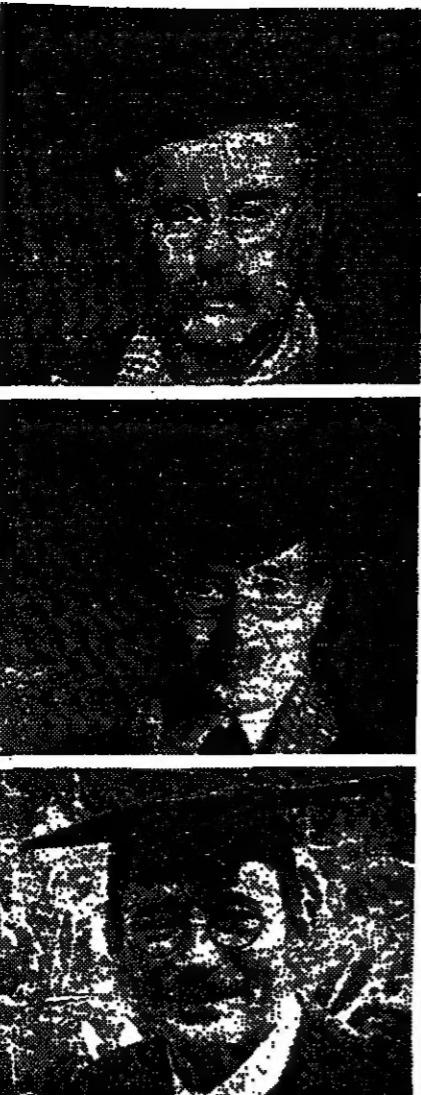
The United States disliked Unesco for its criticism of Israel and South Africa and its attempt to set up a news organization independent of Western news agencies. The decision to set up the news organization, *Pravda* said, was taken "by an overwhelming majority of its member states with the aim of opposing the dominance of the imperialist countries in the field of international information".

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials in Tokyo said they hoped Washington would change its mind, adding that if the United States withdrew Unesco would face financial difficulties.

But a Unesco spokesman in Bangkok said US withdrawal would not affect most aid programmes to developing countries.

In London, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, is to be urged on by Mr Warren Hawkesley, Conservative MP for the Wrekin division of Shropshire, to end Britain's 5 per cent financial contribution to Unesco.

A sentimental journey from airline boss to Mr Chips



Three Mr Chips from the past: Robert Donat (top), Sir John Mills (centre), and Peter O'Toole. Right, the new Mr Chips, Roy Marsden, with his stage wife Katherine next to him, played by Jill Meacher.

By Eupert Morris

Roy Marsden, aged 42, best known as Ruskini, the tough company boss in the popular series *Airline*, will play the infinitely more lovable character of Mr Chips, the hero of James Hilton's novel, in a television series to be broadcast by the BBC at the end of January.

Goodbye Mr Chips was made into a film in the 1930s, with Robert Donat in the starring role, and was revived as a film musical in 1969, with Peter O'Toole and Petula Clark.

Last year Sir John Mills recreated the role on the stage.

Policies for jobs needed, says Walker

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Peter Walker, one of the leading opponents in the Cabinet of hardline Treasury economists yesterday voiced the hope that 1984 would be the year in which unemployment would begin to decline substantially.

In a new year message to the Tory Reform Group, of which he is president, Mr Walker indicated that the internal debate among senior Conservatives will continue with equal vigour next year when he emphasized the need for policies

which would reduce the jobless total.

Ministers including Mrs Margaret Thatcher have been reticent about talking about the timing of a fall in unemployment.

Mr Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, made a strong plea for policies to promote expansion and to help the inner cities.

He included among his wishes for 1984 "that there will be an expansion in world trade and a performance by Britain better than that of our competitors that will bring real hope to

the unemployed and that 1984 will be the year in which unemployment figures begin to decline substantially".

He also wanted the Government to achieve a "well-coordinated and more successful" programme to revitalise the inner cities and to meet the problems of deprivation and despair that still existed in the worst areas.

Mr Walker called on the Western world to create a new relationship with the potentially expanding economies of the future.

Letter from Berlin

Up against the Wall in pleasure's pursuit

Nightlife in East Berlin is as daunting as the day-life, but there are those, with decathlon stamina, who can squeeze pleasure out of the most unpromising terrain; a wet Sunday afternoon, say, in Dnepretrovsk.

Observe the Saturday evening flow through the Berlin Wall: young workers, in natty suits, from Turkey, Morocco, above all Yugoslavia, flee their depressing, underpaid lives in the low-rent districts of West Berlin to visit the East, which they treat with the abandon of playboys, ordering Crimean champagne, trapping and being entrapped by the Holly Golightlys, the sharp end of socialist maidenhood, in the cafes of Unter den Linden.

This miraculous conversion from the neglected margin of West German society to the expensive, sought-after navel of East Germany, through the looking-glass, begins at the bureau of change in the Zoo station.

Here, 50 West German Marks (£12), a modest sum, buys 250 East German Marks, a ransom that is smuggled (usually in the shoe) through the checkpoints at the Berlin Wall. The official exchange rate – one West German Mark = one East German Mark – is treated as a joke. The bubble bursts at midnight, when all but the Yugoslavs (who as fellow socialists can stay the night) have to return.

The night begins early on both sides of Friedrichstrasse, the once-great street, that is now divided by the Wall. In a pub on the western half, Saturday night begins at about 5, when the football results start coming through the radio on the counter. Cigarette (Lux filter, HB) smoke begins to accumulate, the pinball machine flashes "tilt" and the talk is of goals and leagues, of other people's money, of a card game called skat.

Two hundred metres down the road and a perilous pole vault over the wall, the smoke is denser (F-6, Sport filter, Bulgarian tobacco), the juke box is broken and the talk is of

football teams called Dynamo and about a match just seen on Western television.

The real differences emerge after 8. On the western side of the Wall the lights of the kebab stall stay on all night.

In the east, the sweets are bathed in a stale yellow.

But whereas in the west the children of the wall – the generation that has grown up since 1961 – gather like moths around the lights of the Kurfürstendamm, their Eastern contemporaries have no equivalent breeding ground.

Instead, they separate into tribes – the punks, the poppers, the rockers – and depart for their different reservations.

However, extraordinary events bring them together. Such an occasion was the concert of Udo Lindenberg, a West German rock star.

He has a gravelly voice, affects hats to disguise the aging process and supports the Greens. When he arrived, the crowds outside the Palace of the Republic (an appropriately dreary structure) contained every possible specimen of the night and half-night life of the city, all of them shouting "Udo, Udo".

The odd thing is that Lindenberg had recorded a song which was an appeal to Herr Erich Honecker to allow him to tour East Germany and addressed the party leader in relaxed terms: "I believe that you're really quite a swinger... You look yourself in the lotus and listen to Western radio..."

How Lindenberg got into the country is a mystery – Herr Honecker is not famous for his sense of humour. But could he really have been trying to revitalise the nightlife of East Berlin?

Perhaps the clue lies in a voice that comes at the end of the Lindenberg record instructing "Comrade Erich" in Russian, to give the singer immediate permission to visit the German Democratic Republic.

Roger Boyes

Today's events

Last chance to see

Main Street Bygones, Ulster-American Folk Park, Campsie, Glasgow. Mon to Fri 10.30 to 4.30 (ends today).

Picture Derby – photographs of Derby from 1900 to 1983, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby, Tues to Sat 10 to 3 (ends today).

Reality and Artifice – approaches to Modern Art II; MacLaurin Art

Gallery, Ayr, Mon to Sat 11 to 5 (closed 1pm today).

Music

Concert by the Hilliard Ensemble, Dorset County Museum, Dorchester, 8.

Exhibitions in progress

Paintings, Prints and Drawings from 1900 to 1983, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby, Tues to Sat 10 to 3 (ends today).

Reality and Artifice – approaches to Modern Art II; MacLaurin Art

Park Terrace, Southampton; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 4.30, closed Sat and Sun (mid-Jan 13).

Costume Designs by Clive Hicks-Jenkins for the New Theatre production of the Pantomime "Humpy Dumpty", Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent; Mon to Thurs 10 to 5.30, Fri 10 to 4.30, Sat 9.40 to 4, closed Sun (ends Feb 4).

Exhibition of Alternative Technology, Dorset County Museum, High Street West, Dorchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5, closed Sun (ends Jan 28).

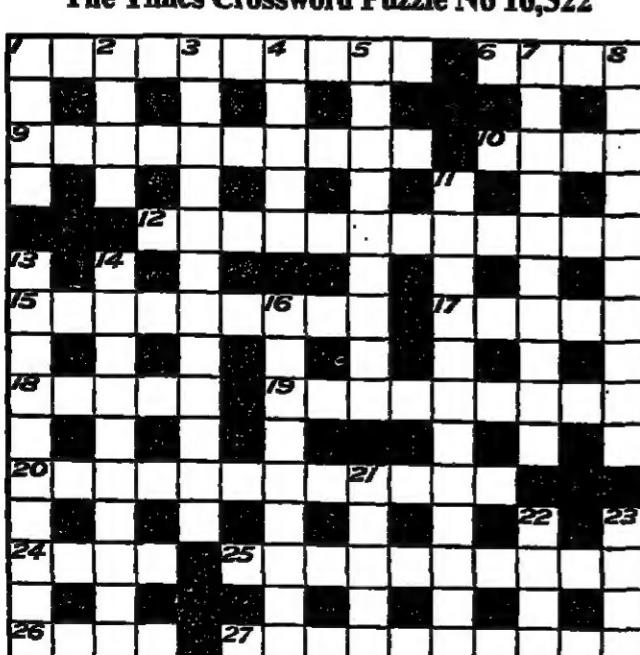
Byker: Photographs of Newcastle's East End by Sirkka-Liisa Kontinen, Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle upon Tyne; Tues to Fri 11 to 6, Sat and Sun 11 to 5 (ends Jan 3).

Exhibition of Alternative Technology, Dorset County Museum, High Street West, Dorchester; Mon to Fri 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5, closed Sun (ends Jan 28).

Byker: Photographs of Newcastle's East End by Sirkka-Liisa Kontinen, Side Gallery, 9 Side, Newcastle upon Tyne; Tues to Fri 11 to 6, Sat and Sun 11 to 5 (ends Jan 3).

Realities and Artifice – approaches to Modern Art II; MacLaurin Art

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,322



Food prices

Post-Christmas shoppers will find a few bargains at the greengrocer: cauliflower which last week fetched 35p-80p each are down to 20p and even 20p-40p a pound at 24p-30p a pound, parsnips – excellent roasted around a joint or grated in salads – 15p-25p a pound. The British Farm Producers Council reminds us that a lot of our vegetables which we normally cook are equally good raw, such as carrots, turnips, onions, leeks, cauliflower and cabbage diced or grated. English and Dutch white cabbage ranges from 16p-25p a pound and may be cheaper in some areas. Salad prices are similar to last week, apart from tomatoes – up possibly as much as 15p a pound and green peppers 60p-80p a pound and an increase of 10p a pound.

The good news on fruit concerns citrus Jaffa and Cyprus grapefruit 8-15p each down 2p, Navel oranges 7p-18p down 1p, clementines, 24p-30p a pound, and satsumas 25p-30p a pound – a reduction of 3p-4p a pound – an increase of 10p a pound.

The good news on fruit concerns

citrus Jaffa and Cyprus grapefruit 8-

15p each down 2p, Navel oranges 7p-

18p down 1p, clementines, 24p-

30p a pound, and satsumas 25p-

30p a pound – a reduction of 3p-

4p a pound – an increase of 10p a

pound.

Meat prices stay the same until after New Year. Tesco has chops topside and silverside at £1.98 per pound and for ribs (bone in) at £2.12 per pound a boneless brisket at £1.42 per pound. Bakers have handy packets of rice flour and lamb at 99p a pound, an average lamb weight 1.12 kg, costing £1.73. Presto have leg of lamb at £1.56 a pound. Sainsbury's English pork leg fillet halves are £1.08 a pound and knuckle half 96p a pound. Marks & Spencer have 10 oz. cartons of double cream at 82p and single at 55p. They have reduced Asda Spurts to £2.99 a bottle. Brut Champagne to £6.99 a bottle and their six varieties of sherry to 49p a bottle, which should help toiven up New Year's Eve.

Information supplied by AA

MEAT PRICES

£1.98 per lb

£1.73 per lb

£1.56 per lb

£1.08 per lb

£0.96 per lb

£0.82 per lb

£0.73 per lb

£0.68 per lb

£0.65 per lb

£0.62 per lb

£0.59 per lb

£0.56 per lb

£0.53 per lb

£0.50 per lb

£0.48 per lb

£0.45 per lb

£0.42 per lb

£0.40 per lb

£0.38 per lb

£0.35 per lb

£0.32 per lb

£0.30 per lb

£0.28 per lb

£0.26 per lb

£0.24 per lb

£0.22 per lb

£0.20 per lb

£0.18 per lb

£0.16 per lb

£0.14 per lb

£0.12 per lb

£0.10 per lb

£0.08 per lb

£0.06 per lb

£0.04 per lb

£0.02 per lb

£0.01 per lb

£0.00 per lb

Roads

Although most major roadworks are suspended over the Christmas holiday period you may encounter delays in the following locations:

London and South-east: A13: Movers Lane flyover closed for repainting, Barking A324: Alternate single lane in Goldsworthy Road, Woking temporary signals 24 hours. A240: Long-term reconstruction between Waterer Road and A217 Brighton Road, in Reigate Road, Burgh Heath, nr Epsom, diversions.

Midlands: A61: Traffic signals controlling traffic at Clay Cross, Derbyshire. A429: Roadworks on Wellebourne-Stow road at Halford, Warwickshire. A45: Roadworks on Coventry-Daventry road at Fosse Crossing, Warwickshire.

Wales and West: A483: Temporary traffic lights in Wind Street, Ammanford; long delays. A35: Single-lane traffic controlled by temporary lights on A35 between Llanelli and Loughwod. A46: Temporary lights on Bancyfelin to Camarthen road; diversions